



KENT ON SUNDAY

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OUTRAGE AT 66% HIKE TO TOLL CHARGE

Dartford crossing is targeted in review

FURIOUS anti-toll campaigners have blasted the Government's decision to increase charges at the Dartford crossing by a staggering 66 per cent.

The Department for Transport (DfT) has said that from 2012, car drivers should pay £2.50 to cross the River Thames – a £1 increase from the current price and £1.50 more than it was just two years ago.

That means tolls will have risen by an incredible 150 per cent in just four years.

Motorists are especially angry about the proposals because they were originally promised the tolls would be scrapped once the cost of building the Queen Elizabeth II bridge was met, which it was seven years ago.

The DfT says the new charges, which are subject to consultation, will help pay for new technology resulting in the removal of the toll booths and a reduction in the level of congestion and pollution.

But Ian Taylor – Kent spokesman for the Association of British Drivers – was less than impressed with the plan.

"I'm appalled, and that's putting it mildly,"

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

he said. "The Government is screwing drivers over even more than it already has been."

"The crossing has already been paid for, it belongs to us and yet we're still being taxed to use it. There's no excuse and I absolutely condemn this move out of hand."

"Most people hate the crossing because of the queues, the pollution and the cost, but we can't live without it unless we want to drive through central London."

"So to raise the cost when there isn't a viable alternative is an absolute disgrace."

The Dartford crossing links the M25 across the River Thames and carries about 150,000 vehicles a day.

Under the plans announced as part of Wednesday's Comprehensive Spending Review, the charges for car drivers could rise from £1.50 to £2 next year, before rising again to £2.50 in 2012.

The DfT also announced it will not be selling the crossing to a private company, signalling a victory for campaigners like local Lib Dem supporter James Willis who opposed the plan devised by the previous Labour government.

He said: "We're really pleased the crossing will remain in public ownership, but the increase in toll charges is totally ignorant to the promises made by previous governments that it would one day be free."

"There's a debate about the first increase (to £2) because if it leads to a removal of the toll booths then that's a good thing. But there's no justification for the second increase; it's just not right and I will launch a campaign to take direct action against it if I have to."

It is not yet known how the price increase will affect HGV drivers, who at present pay £2 per crossing for double-axle vehicles and £3.70 for multi-axle vehicles.

Natalie Chapman, of the Tunbridge Wells-based Freight Transport Association, said the removal of the toll booths would save firms money in terms of fuel and drivers' hours.

However, she said the price increases may have a negative knock-on effect for consumers.

She explained: "The charges are pretty steep to say the least and in the short term it will just be an additional cost in the same way increased fuel prices are."

"Freight companies will absorb it as much as possible, but the only other way to cope is

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO



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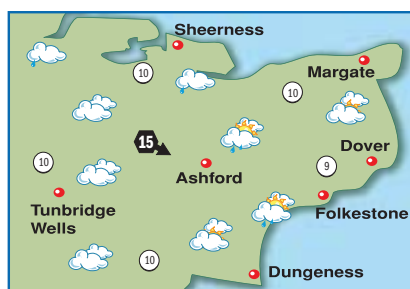


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Kent today



TODAY: Rather cloudy and largely dry but a risk of the odd shower, especially on the eastern coast. Fresh north-westerly winds. Feeling colder than Saturday. Max temp 9-12C (48-54F). **TONIGHT:** Patchy cloud and clear spells, largely dry. Fresh northerly winds. Cold. Min temp 2-5C (36-41F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	showers	8	46	London	cloudy	11	52
Belfast	fair	10	50	Liverpool	drizzle	11	52
Birmingham	drizzle	10	50	Manchester	rain	10	50
B'mouth	fair	12	54	Newcastle	rain	9	48
Bristol	rain	12	54	Norwich	showers	11	52
Cardiff	fair	13	55	Oxford	cloudy	11	52
Cork	sun	11	52	Southsea	drizzle	13	55
Edinburgh	fair	9	48	S'hampton	fair	11	52
Glasgow	fair	10	50	Southport	drizzle	11	52
Isle of Man	sun	11	52	Swansea	fair	12	54
Leeds	rain	8	46	Torquay	showers	12	54

Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.35am	Sunset	5.43pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	5.52pm	Moonsset	9.22am	5.43pm to 7.37am

High Tides

	today	tomorrow
	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	00.08 6.5 12.18 6.5	00.36 6.5 12.46 6.5
Margate	01.09 4.6 13.27 4.7	01.37 4.6 14.00 4.7
St Mary's	05.58 5.5 18.15 5.5	06.30 5.5 18.48 5.5

Week ahead

monday Dry and bright. max 11C min 0C	thursday Dry and sunny. max 14C min 8C
tuesday Rain, some heavy. max 11C min 6C	friday Heavy showers. max 14C min 8C
wednesday The odd shower. max 13C min 7C	saturday Largely dry. max 13C min 4C

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Report places us on economic fast track

High-speed rail is boosting county's fortunes

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

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THE opening of the high-speed rail link across Kent has helped boost investor interest in the county, according to a new report.

The 19th Kent Property Market Report confirms what most people already know – that it has been a challenging year.

But major regeneration and infrastructure projects in Kent and Medway, including the high-speed rail link, have boosted confidence.

The report has been compiled by Kent County Council and chartered surveyors and property consultants Cluttons LLP.

The county council, which is behind the economic analysis in the report, said Kent was in a favourable position compared with other areas of the country due to its diversity and lack of reliance on a single sector.

Encouraging

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "Kent is bucking the economic trend with new companies moving in and creating jobs. These are encouraging signs.

"The high-speed rail link, better road connections and the variety of business sectors doing business in Kent have opened up new opportunities and sped up regeneration. We will continue pushing for further investment in our infrastructure, work to further raise the skills of our workforce, and encourage further recovery in the Kent economy."

Among the new projects to boost the county's attractiveness for investment opportunities is the Cyclopark in Gravesend, which is set to be one of the south's leading multi-sport centres.

Work on a £5 million bus station is under way in Chatham, and Ashford sees improvements to the M20's notorious junction nine.

In other parts of the county, Maidstone High Street improvements will be finished next year, and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has agreed to regenerate key sites in the town, Southborough, Paddock Wood and Cranbrook. In Canterbury, work continues on the new Marlowe Theatre.

At the launch event for the document in Dartford, Alison Owen, a partner at Cluttons, said: "The report highlights Kent's continued healthy performance in comparison with neighbouring counties, other areas in the South East, and the rest of the country.

"One key factor is the impact of large scale infrastructure improvements, such as high-speed rail. Kent benefits from the only high-speed rail link in the UK and it is paying dividends. In Ashford, total rail passenger numbers increased 120 per cent between June and December, 2009.

"The improvements in the town's connectivity are crucial to an ambitious £2.5bn Growth Area development strategy, which will include the creation of 28,000 homes.

"Large scale regeneration projects such as the high-speed rail link are central to Kent's fortunes, and despite funding cuts affecting some high-profile schemes, major developments remain under way across the county."

Commercial property across Kent maintains good interest. The report found there was demand for industrial and office space, which have increased by 53 per cent and 43 per cent respectively since last year.

Rural property continued to outperform commercial and residential property markets, with a healthy demand and values for

farmland reaching a milestone high, the report declares.

Demand for industrial and office space was highest in Thames Gateway Kent, followed by Maidstone, Ashford and Shepway, west Kent, and east Kent.

Peter Symons, director of business development at Locate in Kent, said: "Our projects and property demand figures suggest confidence in Kent and Medway has not waned during the difficult economic climate.

"We've seen a shift in the type of companies interested in relocating or expanding since last year.

"Now, the industrial property demand in terms of space required is dominated by retail and wholesale and construction and property, while in 2009 it was manufacturing and engineering."

Restrictions

Retail sales bounced during the year, with an improved first quarter, falling again in May and June, only to recover again in July and August. The report found there have been no dramatic changes in residential performance since the last report in 2009 as the market is still largely controlled by restrictions on lending.

The high-speed rail service to London has increased the desirability of Kent property, but house prices are yet to be affected. The abolition of HIPs has increased the number of vendors testing the market but overall the market remains relatively fragile, it said.

Visit www.kentpropertymarket.com for more information.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Drivers' fury at Thames crossing toll hike

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

to pass the cost onto the consumer, who will pay more for goods and services as a result."

Last month Dartford MP Gareth Johnson said he had "secured the death knell" for the toll booths, but admitted motorists may still be charged to cross the Thames through the use of new technology such as automatic number plate recognition (ANPR).

He admitted to KoS this week that he

would continue to campaign to get the charges scrapped.

"No-one likes paying more for going over the crossing," he said.

"But the purpose of the increase is to pay for the £10 million it's going to cost to remove the toll booths.

"It will also help to pay for more occasions when the tolls themselves can be suspended when the queues become intolerable, as well as a potential new crossing over the

Thames. My preferred option is to remove the charges in their entirety, but the Treasury cannot say goodbye to £43m net profit each year, so it's not going to happen.

"It's not something I'm never going to give up on and my opinion hasn't changed.

"But it's important we focus our attention now on tackling the congestion and getting rid of the toll booths."

• **For more on the Comprehensive Spending Review, see pages 8-9.**



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Villagers suffer invasion of flies

MILLIONS of flies have descended on villages to the east of Ashford... and no-one is sure why.

The outbreak began three weeks ago with residents noticing increased numbers of the insects swarming into their homes.

Shops across the area have run out of fly spray and pest controllers are unable to identify the source of the fly population explosion.

Janet Westrope, from Pluckley – reputedly Britain's most haunted village – said: "They have been everywhere in the house. I have used two canisters of fly spray in a week.

"I have now had to resort to using fly-paper which seems to be working better."

Mrs Westrope said after hanging up three sheets of fly-paper more than 40 flies had met their death in a matter of hours.

Pluckley usually has to put up with swarms of tourists at this time of year, keen to spot its famous ghosts at Halloween, but this latest invasion is less welcome.

Demand

Shops in the the area have noticed a run on bug spray and are pushing suppliers to send them more as soon as possible.

Emma Douglas, a shop assistant at the village store said: "We have had loads of people coming in and asking for spray and fly-paper. We get the usual number of flies in the summer, but this is different."

The 17-year-old who lives in the village said: "I had 40 in my bedroom and there were 20 in other rooms around the house."

Four miles down the road in picturesque Smarden villagers have also noticed an influx of unwelcome visitors.

Sam Archer, from the village's post office, said: "We have run out of fly spray. It started getting worse about 10 days ago and it was pretty bad over the weekend. It's a big topic of discussion around the village at the moment."

Residents of the 2008 Village of the Year have had to keep windows and doors shut to combat the outbreak, and are having to drive further afield in a search for insecticide.

Although increases of flies in the area have been noticed before, this year's rise seems worse and has run on into the autumn months.

In nearby Hothfield the village store had also noticed an increase in requests for fly spray. Pluckley Parish Council will be discussing the problem at a meeting this week.

A spokesman for Ashford council said: "We have received nine complaints. We have visited the area but so far we do not have any conclusive evidence of the source. We suspect that if there was a single source (ie, farm manure) then it has already been ploughed in."

To see this clip search 'paws'
@ yourkenttv.co.uk



Some of the sights from this year's Paws in the Park as seen through the eyes of dog Nutmeg

New theatre to benefit from an evening with Timothy West

Top Brass lends his support to Marlowe

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

VETERAN actor Timothy West will recount tales from his 54-year career to help the reopening of one of Kent's best-loved theatres.

The 75-year-old has appeared in countless plays, films and television programmes since his debut in 1956, with the Day of the Jackal, The Thirty-Nine Steps and Cry Freedom among his biggest roles.

But the husband of Fawlty Towers legend Prunella Scales will be leaving his script at home when he hosts An Evening with Timothy West next month, in aid of the new Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury.

Both Mr West and his wife are patrons of the campaign behind the £25.6 million auditorium, which is owned by the city council and scheduled to open next year.

"People like seeing something which is going on in front of them at that moment, rather than something recorded, and that's why theatres are enjoyed by so many," he said.

"Sometimes it can be quite difficult to keep them going, and perhaps even more so after this week's spending cuts, so it's wonderful to see somewhere like the Marlowe which has so much support already."

The new Marlowe Theatre will include a new three-tier, 1,200-seat main auditorium,



DRAMATIC: Star Timothy West will entertain to raise funds for the new Marlowe Theatre

a second 'producing and performing space', and several public areas.

Other patrons of the development trust behind the rebuild include Hollywood star and former Canterbury resident Orlando Bloom, musician Jools Holland, and former Absolutely Fabulous and Gurkha rights campaigner Joanna Lumley.

Mr West said: "I'm very keen to support any scheme that promotes the building or restoration of theatres, and I think it was needed in east Kent because the old Marlowe was not very satisfactory."

Despite appearing in countless stage, film and television productions over the years, Mr West is perhaps best known for playing Bradley Hardacre in the 1980s comedy-

drama Brass and the title role in the 1975 drama series Edward the Seventh.

He is currently performing alongside his son Samuel in the West End play A Number.

Peter Williams – chairman of the New Marlowe Theatre Development Trust – said: "Timothy West has from the outset given generously of his energy, time and talents.

"He has led a fascinating life and we are privileged he has agreed to share his views and memories with us to raise much-needed funds for our new theatre."

An Evening with Timothy West is at the Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury, at 7.30pm on Monday, November 8. Tickets, priced £12 (students £8), are available on 01227 787787 or see www.newmarlowetheatre.org.uk.

Offending rate dropping again

CRIME has fallen in Kent for the fourth year in a row.

New figures show crime has fallen by 8.7 per cent (10,212 crimes) during the year to June, 2010.

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beutridge said: "Obviously this is good news.

"Clearly, we have challenging times ahead with the difficult financial climate. We will have to do things differently in future but this is a chance to take stock and focus on what really matters."

Criminal damage offences are down 13.6 per cent (3,568 crimes) and vehicle crime reduced by 18.7 per cent (2,802). Violent crime was down by 10.8 per cent (2,802 crimes), and gun crime by 26.4 per cent (23 crimes).

Domestic burglary saw an overall fall of 4.5 per cent – 250 fewer crimes.

However, drug offences rose by 5.5 per cent (223 crimes).

CAMILLA, the Duchess of Cornwall, is taking a tour of the county on Thursday.

As patron of the War Memorials Trust she will visit the Battle of Britain National Memorial to unveil a sculpture of Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Park at Capel-le-Ferne.

She will also visit the Medway Aircraft Preservation Society to tour its workshop in Chatham and meet its volunteers.

The wife of Prince Charles, who is also patron of the National Osteoporosis Society, will visit the osteoporosis department at Kent and Canterbury Hospital, and meet members of NOS support groups.

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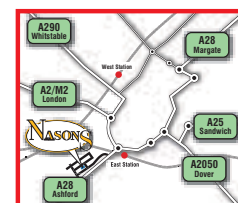


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High-speed train service will be lost to Olympics

HIGH-speed train services could be derailed during the 2012 Olympics when organisers of the Games take control of the Kent timetable, **writes Steve Knight.**

As part of its franchise agreement with the Government, rail operator Southeastern will give up use of the 140mph bullet trains so they can instead be used to ferry spectators between St Pancras, Stratford near the Olympic park, and Ebbsfleet International.

The move could cause severe disruption for other commuters throughout the course of the event, as well as hinder Kent's ability to add to the six Olympic and Paralympic teams already signed up for pre-Games training camps in the county.

"It seems rather perverse for the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) to be able to take the high-speed service over, especially when we already have teams starting to locate in Kent," said North Thanet MP Roger Gale.

"We are still working very hard to try to get Olympic teams, personnel, fans and equipment flown into Manston airport, so we need those fast links to the east of the county. This needs to be looked at long and hard before a final decision is made."

The opening ceremony of the London Olympics will take place on July 12, 2012, with the Games starting the following morning and lasting for the next 17 days. There will then be a 16-day interlude before the 11-day Paralympics begins on August 29.



Picture: MATT BUCK

BULLET TRAIN: Timetable disruption is likely to affect Kent passengers in 2012

Southeastern trains will be removed from regular service throughout the course of both Games, but a final timetable is not expected until early next year.

Spokesman Jon Hay-Campbell said the rail operator will look to provide passengers with a "reasonable and appropriate" form of compensation in the event that high-speed services in Kent are severely disrupted.

He added: "There is a risk the ODA will want to use all of the trains the whole time the Olympics are on."

"It's the worst-case scenario, but if there are no trains at all then we would have to look at if we can provide compensation. Once the ODA has decided what it wants, we'll be in a much better position to say what level of service we'll be able to provide. At the moment we have no

idea what the timetable is going to be.

"However, there are deadlines which must be met and we should be able to say something about it by the beginning of next year."

Mr Hay-Campbell added Southeastern will be looking to run normal mainline services throughout the course of the Olympics "as far as possible", and that where it can it will strengthen services and provide stand-by trains for late-finishing events.

Kent's high-speed service has been criticised since it was launched in late 2009, with mainline passengers claiming it is under-utilised and has resulted in overcrowding, delays and cancellations on mainline trains.

And last month we revealed how passengers wanting to travel first-class on the High Speed 1 network were being charged almost £100 to book online, even though such a service does not exist.

Tunde Olatunji – Kent manager for the rail watchdog Passenger Focus – said of the Olympic disruption: "Clearly we have raised the issue of compensation for those passengers affected and we expect to have further discussions with Southeastern once we know what the new timetable will look like."

"We will also seek to ensure all the information is passed on to passengers via the company's website."

Kent County Council, which is heavily involved in attempting to attract Olympic teams to the county, declined to comment.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

£30k police officers collecting trolleys

KENT Police have defended a decision to use officers to collect Tesco shopping trolleys, despite facing multi-million pound budget cuts.

Police and Swale council assigned two officers – on salaries of about £30,000 a year – and a council worker to spend two hours collecting 43 trolleys abandoned in Sheerness. Police say it is part of their community safety remit, but Tesco said if officers had called, it would have cleared up for free.

Emma Boon, of the Taxpayers' Alliance, said: "It's worrying that the council and police are spending their time and taxpayers' money clearing up Tesco's mess."

Tesco made a £1.6 billion pre-tax profit in the six months up to August 28 – up 12.5 per cent on the same period in 2009. A Tesco spokesman said: "Our staff carry out regular collections. If trolleys are abandoned on the streets people can notify the store manager and we will collect them."

Insp Steve Griffiths said: "We're trying to make the area better for everyone and often trolleys are left in the road or are used in anti-social behaviour."

To view search 'cannon'
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Comics Armstrong and Miller took aim at the French with their pie-cannon at Deal Castle

Greenwash is 'wasting cash'

AN AWARD-winning Kent expert in sustainable buildings has branded wind turbines, solar panels and most eco-gadgetry as "greenwash" and a "complete waste of money", **writes Business Editor Steve Loader.**

And designer and engineer Duncan Murray warned planners and companies embarking on new-build projects to beware being sucked into "bandwagon jumping" or falling for the latest eco fad.

Mr Murray's expertise in his field is well-known. His Ashford-based firm Directline Structures scooped the Sustainable Design and Construction category at last month's Kent Environment Business of the Year Awards, designed to highlight companies leading the way for sustainability within the construction industry.

Directline's award came after judges saw the company's futuristic headquarters at Ashford's Orbital Park, but there is not a wind turbine or solar panel in sight.

When asked why not during an exclusive interview for Business Week, he said: "The figures just don't add up and you simply don't need them to create a building that is cheap to run and built in a sustainable way."

"You can see the fashions and fads come and go every year. A couple of years ago it was all about solar panels."

It was now more about wind turbines, he added, though this has only become financially attractive because the Government is offering to buy back surplus power. He is also sceptical about geo-thermal heating – a system of underground pipes that allows heat to be recovered from the soil.

He said: "When we investigated using it at the request a client, we realised it wouldn't work efficiently in clay."

He also stressed many high-profile green features such as wind turbines, solar panels and 'living roofs' – where soil has been laid and a lawn and other plants allowed to grow – could end up being costly and awkward to maintain. "They raise health and safety concerns about who is going to go up on the roof



GOOD POINT: Duncan Murray (left) on site

and maintain them and how," he said. But Mr Murray, 57, remains a passionate advocate of green engineering that began when he joined construction giant Tarmac straight from university.

He went on to co-found his own company in 1988 and now specialises in designing and building steel commercial and educational buildings nationwide, including what he sees as genuinely viable eco-friendly features such as rainwater harvesting to flush toilets, double-glazing to help temperature control and smart drainage. He advocates gravel rather than hard surfaces to prevent torrents of water running off and causing floods.

He revealed he now plans a series of seminars at his company's eco-HQ to spread his pragmatic approach to greener building practices.

• **Read the full Big Interview with Duncan Murray on pages 80 and 81 in Business Week.**

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THE INTERVIEW



BY TOM BETTS

Snake Davis – still scaling the musical heights



MUSIC MAN:
World-famous
saxophonist
Snake Davis
says the Ship
Theatre is
his favourite
UK venue

WORKING with some of the music industry's brightest stars is not all that fuels the fire of world-famous saxophonist Snake Davis.

Chatting to the laid-back musician, it becomes clear that despite the plaudits and names he can drop it's an essential, driving passion for music that motivates him to keep playing.

His flair will be on show in Kent again on this weekend when he returns to the venue he says is his favourite place in the country to play – the Ship Theatre in Sevenoaks.

"It's a really beautiful theatre with a great set up. It's just the kind of place I really like playing most of all. It seems to bring out the best in me.

"It has a great layout, a lovely sound and the type of venue that makes a difference to the quality of the sound, as opposed to a school hall for instance.

"It really will add to what I think will be a great night for everybody."

If the name sounds familiar it's because Snake has played saxophone on some of the most memorable records of the last 20 years, from Take That's A Million Love Songs, to M People's Moving On Up and Search for a Hero.

More recently he has been working with Amy Winehouse and dance guru Calvin Harris and was M People's saxophonist of choice, as one of the most recent bands to employ the brass instrument to great effect.

However, it is not just the saxophone that Snake will be picking up at the Ship.

He is also an accomplished flutist and will be playing a selection of those, such as a shakuhachi, a Japanese bamboo flute, as well as a selection of different saxophones.

"I'm hoping to put on a great evening and hope people will be walking away with a smile on their face.

"I have a real mix of people come along to the shows, from saxophonists to people who enjoy quality music and musicianship, and families. I have a fantastic band that I play with and I think this show is going to be one to remember."

Although Snake started playing the saxophone when he was young, it was not his first choice and it took some time for him to settle on what instrument to pursue.

"I grew up in Sheffield and I tried a whole load of instruments, from the guitar to the piano and trumpet. I settled on wind instruments and as soon as I picked the sax up when I was about 18 it was what I knew I wanted to do with the rest of my life.

"I never thought it would become my work, though. Eighteen was a late stage to start playing, but I seemed to learn fast. I'll always play though, I know I'll never stop."

To learn more about the man and his music, visit his website at www.snakedavis.com and his MySpace page at www.myspace.com/snakedavis.

Tickets for his Ship Theatre show cost £15 each and can be purchased by calling 01732 740889.

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Orchards crisis a risk to Garden of England tag

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

KENT is in danger of losing its Garden of England reputation as orchard land continues to disappear.

A new report from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) has highlighted the national worries.

In the last decade the UK has lost 31 per cent of its apple orchard land; in the last 25 years more than half our apple orchards have disappeared. And it is just as bad in Kent.

Orchard campaign organisation Common Ground said Kent is rapidly losing any reason it had to be called the Garden of England.

Sue Clifford said: "Natural England has issued recent reports which make for shocking reading if you are in Kent.

"It found that between 1946 and 2003, a stunning 92 per cent of orchard land disappeared in the county, which is a scary statistic. And from 1999 to 2003, the net loss per year was 1.8 per cent. That is every year, which means it won't be too long before they are all gone."

Apples rank as the UK's second favourite fruit, behind bananas.

Every year Britons consume 680,000 tonnes, but just one in three apples are British, despite the fact the climate here can support a staggering 2,300 varieties.

Common Ground said: "Since the 60s, Kent lost 80 per cent of its orchard land. The reason so many have been lost is because the econom-



FALL: Kent's orchards slowly disappearing

ics haven't been working because so many superstores have been buying the cheapest, and importing them from Chile, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand at the height of our season."

But Ms Clifford also blames growers for not supplying the apples people buy in supermarkets: "It's a lack of will and imagination."

She said a step towards a solution is people supporting producers by buying direct from farm shops. And farms can hold Apple Days, and community orchards can supply residents with a local product.

One such community orchard is No Man's Orchard bought for around £11,000 in 1996 by Chartham and Harbledown parish councils. It is run by the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership.

Its manager John Shelton told KoS: "Income comes from government plus some other bodies, plus we run an adopt a tree scheme which allows people to pay around

£50 for a tree during its natural life.

"That allows them to come in and pick the apples from their very own tree, while we maintain the orchard."

It also runs another orchard near Ashford.

Graeme Willis, local food campaigner for CPRE, said: "The rate at which we have lost apple orchards is crazy. We have one of the best climates for growing apples yet we are importing most of the apples we eat."

The UK apple season runs from July to March. Many varieties are suitable for short-term storage, making UK apples available for much of the year.

Ms Clifford said: "People are taking it for granted that Kent is an apple county, but it isn't any more. And unless people take responsibility in their locality, and say we like Kent apples and want more of them, then the orchards will continue to disappear."

Sally Roger, of the Brogdale Collections in Faversham, the home of the national fruit collection, said: "Thousands of acres of orchards and many heritage varieties of apples, pears, plums and cherries have disappeared from Kent over the last few decades as shoppers have demanded more perfect looking fruit all year around from supermarkets."

"The National Fruit Collection at Brogdale Farm preserves more than 4,000 varieties of fruit tree, including 2,200 varieties of apples."

Brogdale stages an apple festival this weekend where hundreds of varieties will be showcased and available to taste and buy.

See www.brogdalecollections.co.uk.

Church accepts Pope's invite in to Catholicism

ANGLICAN churchgoers in Folkestone are to become the first in the country to convert en masse to Roman Catholicism.

The move is an acceptance of the Pope's offer to leave the Church of England in protest at women becoming bishops.

The church council of St Peter's in North Street voted to take the first formal steps towards converting at the end of September.

Pope Benedict, who visited Britain last month, made an offer of a place in the Roman Catholic Church for Anglicans that would let them retain some of their practices and traditions.

The church's vicar, Father Stephen Bould, said about the ordination of women: "These are indicators of either a change in or an abandonment of the understanding of the nature and identity of the Church that many Anglicans have held, and in order to keep to that they are going to have to, at some point, leave the Church of England."

St Peter's Parochial Church Council is now seeking a meeting with the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is also the head of its diocese, about its joining the Catholic Church in some capacity.

It is believed the church wishes to convert as a group, but it is unlikely that members would be allowed to keep the 150-year-old church building.

The neighbouring St Peter's Primary will remain a Church of England school.

The church is part of the traditionalist Forward In Faith organisation, whose leader, the Bishop of Fulham John Broadhurst, recently became the fourth Anglican bishop to convert to Rome in protest at women bishops.

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SPENDING REVIEW After Chancellor announces his Comprehensive



CUTBACKS: Chancellor George Osborne

Only time will tell how deep the pain

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

SENIOR public servants have warned it is still too early to predict how the Government's spending cuts will affect the people of Kent.

Despite Chancellor George Osborne delivering his long-awaited Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) speech on Wednesday, council and police chiefs in the county say they are still months away from knowing exactly how much cash they will be forced to save.

Police spending will be cut by four per cent every year for the next four years, while there will also be a total reduction in council grants of about 26 per cent.

However, there have been no indications as to how other smaller grants will be affected.

Kent Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes said: "Four per cent is just four per cent off our basic grant. It's too early to say how much the cuts will affect us because we receive quite a bit more from special grants for things like community support officers and dedicated security posts to protect our borders, and we haven't really heard about that yet."

"We think we should know the bigger picture by the end of November and be able to make an announcement at our meeting in December."

"There's no doubt these are massive cuts, but we have taken a pragmatic approach and have been planning for this for some time."

Mrs Barnes added the desire to keep council tax increases as low as possible could end up backfiring in Kent.

She said: "Sixty-nine per cent of our funding comes from central government grants and only 31 per cent from council tax."

"We are a very low-taxing authority so we rely very heavily on the government grants."

Last month Kent's Chief Constable Ian Learmonth revealed the force will have no option but to slash 1,500 jobs if the Home Office removes 20 per cent of its funding – the equivalent of about £53 million over the next four years.

NOT SUCH CLOSE SHAVE BY DEMON BARBER OSBORNE

IT WAS a good day to bury bad news, as a Labour government spin doctor once said.

So, while George Osborne told us about the coalition's Comprehensive Spending Review, many people were distracted by coverage of the Wayne Rooney-Man Utd saga.

It says much about our strangely warped celebrity culture.

Then again, after promising a fiscal version of United manager Sir Alex Ferguson's famous 'hairdryer' dressing room dress downs, the Chancellor's delivery was less hair-raising and compulsive than expected.

For instance, a major threat to hack 25 per cent from government department budgets over four years, became a 19 per cent clip; perhaps he was using that football agent ploy of making an inflated wage demand only to grumble unconvincingly after settling for what his already obscenely overpaid client really wants.

But if Osborne's delivery was less demon barber and more the 'been on yer 'olidays?' variety, Kent businesses will give him a generous tip.

What they sought from the CSR was confidence and stability; of course the financial burdens on households will curtail consumer spending and taking the jobs axe to a bloated

COMMENT
by Business Editor
STEVE LOADER



public sector also removes many would-be spenders from efforts to restore economic growth.

But the county's commercial heartland, which knows survival depends on balancing its books, never related to the previous government's reckless spending and borrowing; it wanted to see Osborne make cuts and steady things as soon as possible.

And they will be heartened by the CSR being judged to have confirmed the UK's triple-A credit rating; nobody wanted the colossal UK debt becoming more expensive to service.

We remain in tough times, but flexible and adaptable Kent businesses will feel – and with apologies to Churchill – that they have now been given the tools to finish the job.

• See Business Week (from page 77) for more on Kent firms and the spending review.

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public sector jobs, with up to 18,000 expected in Kent over the next six years.

Among other major announcements was news that the state pension age will rise to 66 for both men and women in 2020 – six years earlier than planned – alongside a £3.5bn increase in public sector employee pension contributions.

Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter said the predicted 26 per cent spending cuts was almost exactly what the authority is already preparing for, with an estimated shortfall of £340m over the next four years.

He said: "We should know our final settlement by December and it depends on how the money is divided throughout the country."

"But there are also various other grants we may not get the full detail on until after we have set next year's budget."

"It's not going to be easy, but we will strive to be the leanest and fittest authority we can be while protecting front-line services as far as possible."

"The bit of good news is that we have every intention of setting a zero per cent council tax increase for next year and the year after."

The professional services firm KPMG has warned that some councils may go bankrupt within four years as a result of the spending cuts, but Cllr Carter said it was "most unlikely" KCC would be one of them.

He added: "I think it's going to affect district and borough councils enormously because when you remove 26 per cent from a budget of about £18m then it doesn't leave a lot, and the bins still need to be collected."

Meanwhile, Kent Labour MEP Peter Skinner criticised the coalition Government for enforcing such severe cuts.

He said: "The Government has made the wrong calls. We have already seen that this coalition government is not committed to growth in Kent with its announcement to scrap our Regional Development Agency."

Spending Review, what can we expect?

Reduction in Armed Forces Labour's fault

A KENT MP just assigned to a new job to establish fresh roles for Britain's military reservists has blamed the massive defence cuts on the financial situation left behind by Labour.

Canterbury Tory MP Julian Brazier said his own military background helped him win a new key defence role on the eve of swingeing cuts to Britain's defence forces.

In the statement on the Strategic Defence and Security Review, David Cameron praised Mr Brazier's contribution to the Territorial Army and announced his appointment to the Reserve Commission as deputy to the vice chair of the defence staff, General Houghton.

The MP who served in the TA for 13 years, including five years as an officer with 21 SAS, said: "Reserve units are a vital part of our country's defence and security. There are many ways that both the role and the membership of the reserve forces can be enhanced, and I hope to be a part of making that happen."

He told KoS: "Other English speaking countries, particularly America, make much more use of their reserve forces.

Shambles

"We have very small reserve forces. The TA is only a fifth of the British Army whereas the National Guard is more than half the American army. We have no flying reserves apart from one Hercules squadron in the air force whereas in America, a third of all the F16 squadrons are reservists. The maritime reserves here are tiny.

"The question is, could the reserves do more drawing on the talents and skills of people from their civilian duties? Some 27,000 reservists have gone to Iraq and Afghanistan and 23 of them have been killed. But the structure for doing it does not work well for the reservists, or their employers, or the wider defence interest, and we need to look at it again."

Defence cuts announced last week mean a 'temporary' loss of 17,000 forces personnel, 25,000 MoD civil servants, cuts in ships, tanks, and jets.

Mr Brazier said the cuts are necessary.

He said: "Given the desperate shortage of money and the shambles that Labour left behind like spending just over £2 billion on refurbishing the Ministry of Defence building for example, I think Defence Secretary Liam Fox has done remarkably well."

Families feel hard done by losing benefit

A MOTHER expecting her seventh child has voiced her dismay at benefit cuts she says will cost her family more than £4,500 a year.

Sally Gatherer, 46, says it is unfair to be penalised by the Government when her husband – a successful manager for a large retail firm – earns more than £44,000 and is a high tax contributor.

The child benefit cuts outlined earlier this month have sparked outrage among families across the UK, especially as a loophole in the plans allows two people earning £43,000 each to still receive benefits.

Mrs Gatherer, from Ashford, says her husband may now be forced to quit his job and find a less well-paid position elsewhere so he can fall below the tax threshold.

"We understand cuts have to be made and are happy to do our bit by paying more tax and VAT for example," she said.

"But because we are a large family we are going to lose huge amounts of money and will be worse off than a lot of families who fall into a lower tax bracket.

"How is that fair when somebody with 10 children can pay less to the state and still be supported by it?"

Complaints

During this week's CSR announcement, Chancellor George Osborne revealed how axing child benefit for top-rate taxpayers from 2013 would raise £2.5 billion – more than was predicted when the policy was announced earlier this month.

He also dismissed speculation he would cap the benefit for children aged 16.

Earlier this month North Thanet MP Roger Gale told colleagues at the Tory Party conference the Government should not waver when people like Mrs Gatherer come forward with individual complaints about the cuts.

He said: "People will make special pleas to save certain things, but this can't happen now. It's easy to say something is a special case, but everything is a special case to someone. If the Chancellor is forced to give in to special pleas the entire economic plan will unravel. This is not easy, but it has to happen."

Despite Mr Gale's view on the subject, Mrs Gatherer said it was not fair for her family to miss out when they still give more to the Government in taxes than they receive in benefits

Bold Steps to tackle deficit

COMMUNITY groups may be invited to run some council services under a new four-year plan designed to tackle County Hall's budget deficit.

The idea is among dozens laid out in the new Bold Steps for Kent document, which says the county council has a "responsibility" to radically re-think and re-shape the way the authority operates.

Other proposals include the formation of a Big Society Fund to provide start-up cash for social enterprises, and closer working with district councils to reduce a duplication of certain priorities.

Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "It is clear we will be facing significant changes to the way public services are delivered, along with fundamental reductions in funding over the next four years.

"We are facing very different challenges and Bold Steps for Kent is a very different

approach. An absolute focus on the real priorities for Kent will be needed. At the same time we know the relationship between citizen and state is changing and local communities are empowered like never before."

The report says there are three key priorities for KCC to tackle over the next four years, which are helping the Kent economy grow, putting the citizen in control, and tackling disadvantage.

Cllr Carter said the council's cause had been aided by the Government's desire to devolve more power to local authorities, which includes the recent announcement that 192 quangos will be axed or merged with other bodies.

He added: "The message to local government is clear – just get on with it."

Bold Steps for Kent is out for consultation until November 12. Visit www.kent.gov.uk for more information.

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National project underway to protect our endangered sealife

Diving in to help with marine conservation

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

RECREATIONAL divers are giving up their free time to help identify which of Kent's offshore wildlife populations are most in need of protection.

The waters off the English Channel and in the Thames Estuary are teeming with marine life like seahorses, sponges and rays, but the pressures of shipping, wind farms, commercial fishing and more, is putting their very existence at threat.

Plans for a network of conservation zones should help tackle the problem, and divers signed up to Kent Wildlife Trust's Seasearch project are playing their part as well.

"It's a national project that allows recreational divers to record seabed habitat and species," said the trust's marine conservation officer Bryony Chapman.

"It's been very useful in the current process of deciding which areas off the Kent coast are most in need of protection.

"Everything is still under discussion, but the chalk around Dover and Thanet is partic-

Picture: JASON ARMSTRONG



HELPERS: A Seasearch team off Dover

ularly important because it is rare on an international scale and we have a fair bit of it.

"It's soft rock that allows particular types of species – like sponges, worms and burrowing molluscs called piddocks – to live there.

Protected

"Also in Kent we have quite a lot of worm reefs, which are tubes of sand made by a particular species of worm that also provide a habitat for a range of other marine life as

well. So it's important they are protected too."

The creation of marine conservation zones forms part of the Marine and Coastal Access Act, which went through Parliament last year with the aim of ensuring healthy and biologically diverse oceans and seas by putting in place better systems for ensuring sustainable development.

Another marine project – the University of Kent-led Balanced Seas – is talking to users of the sea before making its recommendations about conservation zones to the Government next spring.

"We need to start managing our seas in a more sustainable way, not just because they provide us with a whole raft of species to eat, but also because of the underwater aggregate for building materials," said Ms Chapman.

"The seas also help to regulate our climate, but they need to be protected in order for them to do that.

"At the moment they are being degraded by various things, such as cross-Channel ferry crossings, the high number of offshore wind farms in the area, aggregate dredging and commercial fishing.

"Hopefully, the new conservation zones will provide a sanctuary for marine wildlife and help the waters off the Kent coast return to full health."

Coastal cash row over access paths

PLANS to provide better access to the Kent coast have been described as a waste of money by the Country Land and Business Association.

Natural England announced last week the Kent section of the England Coast Path – 20 miles from Dover to Ramsgate – will be constructed next year pending consultation.

But CLA Kent chairman Judith Norris said money would be better spent elsewhere as the county is already well served by coastal paths.

She said: "If the Government wants to spend money then it would be better spent on improving circular routes and the facilities which exist on the established coastal paths."

The first stretch Natural England plans to open under the Marine and Coastal Access Act will be beside Weymouth Bay in Dorset, which is subject to a consultation ending in January.

Week celebrating Kent's great coast

BOAT trips, creative workshops and food-tasting will form part of Kent's Coastal Week, which starts this weekend.

A wide range of activities will be available throughout the county, and with 2010 being the International Year of Biodiversity, there will be a particular focus on coastal and marine wildlife.

The festivities run from Saturday, October 23, until Sunday, October 31.

A full listing of all the attractions can be viewed online at www.kent.gov.uk or call 08458 247600 for a printed version.

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Mistakes at the fuel pump mean taxpayers left to foot £40,000 bill

BUNGLING emergency service workers and careless council employees have cost Kent taxpayers almost £40,000 in the last three years by putting the wrong fuel in their cars.

Kent Police were the biggest culprits for misfilling vehicles, clocking up a staggering 109 failed fuel attempts since 2008.

That equates to a mistake every six days and a cost to the public of £21,948.

Dozy drivers from the South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAMB) and Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) also made the silly servicemen list. SECAMB workers were guilty of 78 fuelling mishaps, costing £11,000, while KFRS officers had 12 pump problems, wasting £3,594 of funding.

Kent County Council staff members made the same mistake to the tune of £10,254, while Maidstone Borough Council workers had two blunders.

Emma Boon, from the Taxpayers' Alliance, said: "Mistakes do happen, but it is quite shocking the same one is being repeated and costing taxpayers so much money."

"A cheap and easy solution to prevent this from happening would be for the organisa-

By **JOE BILL**
joe.bill@kosmedia.co.uk

tions to stick a label on the petrol cap, like many firms do with company cars, to make it very clear to the driver which type of fuel should be used.

"This is needless waste that can be reduced with a simple measure."

Each of the services was asked under the Freedom of Information Act to outline how many times vehicles had been filled up with the wrong fuel, and how much it cost to have the resulting problems sorted.

A Kent Police spokesman played down the errors, saying: "Kent Police has 1,197 vehicles in its fleet which travelled 20 million miles during the 2009-10 financial year."

"In this time period there were 73,125 financial transactions for fuel purchases of which 63, or 0.09 per cent, involved cars that were filled with the wrong fuel."

"In the last two years, the force implemented a diesel-only policy to reduce fuel costs and the production of carbon emissions, saving the force £500,000 per year."

Liz Spiers, from the SECAMB NHS Trust, said: "While taking our responsibility towards the taxpayer extremely seriously, the cost of

misfuelling needs to be taken into context of number of journeys the trust undertakes and our overall vehicle maintenance budget."

KCC's corporate support chief Roger Gough said: "Quite clearly all these incidents are due to human error."

"Looking at the statistics, of the £10,254.83 repair bill over the three-and-a-half year period analysed, individuals with lease cars were responsible for repairs totalling nearly £8,000."

"All these repairs were paid for by the individuals, not the council, as agreed in their lease contracts. The 12 remaining incidents, costing £2,287.96, were paid for by Kent County Council."

Zoo's dung deal with water firm

ELEPHANTS' jumbo-sized poos have meant Howletts zoo has had to call in the plumbers to deal with a mounting problem.

The wild animal park in Bekesbourne houses 14 elephants, which each create their large piles of droppings every two hours.

Although the elephant enclosure is connected up to the mains water supply, it was not connected to the sewers, so keepers have to shovel all waste away by hand.

Most of the dung is used as fertiliser by farmers, but after the majority is removed the enclosure is washed down and the resultant mess has to be taken away by expensive tankers for treatment.

But the park and Southern Water have now come up with a plan to connect the elephant enclosure to a sewer, meaning less expenditure by the zoo.

Southern Water trade effluent inspector Nigel Jarman said: "This is definitely one of the more unusual trade effluent contracts that we have."

"Most of them are with launderettes, car washes and things like that, but this is one of the strangest."

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Donors wanted to avoid double dip in blood reserves

A MAJOR drive is under way to ensure Kent's dwindling army of blood donors continue to turn out to avert a major drop in supplies.

Existing donors are getting phone calls from the service to ensure they are available to give their blood and beat the traditional autumn downturn.

It has got so bad in the county that health chiefs are urging those who have never donated before to get in on the act.

Last year, the start of October sparked a sharp fall.

To prevent a 'double dip', when the other seasonal inevitabilities, flu and bad weather strike, NHS Blood and Transplant wants people to donate now to reverse the autumn decline and help build extra reserves to get through winter.

Jon Latham, NHSBT assistant director, said: "The downward trend at this time of year puts pressure on our blood stocks as demand from hospitals is constant.

"We would like to increase blood stocks. This will give us an extra reserve that means we can meet the added challenges that winter brings and maintain supplies to hospitals.

"Giving blood is vital to ensure patients undergoing surgery and receiving treatment for cancer and blood diseases, such as leukaemia, continue to receive the transfusions they need."

The service relies entirely on volunteer blood donors to maintain the vital supply of blood to hospitals and said more than 95 per cent of the blood collected is processed into red cells, platelets and plasma. A regular supply of blood is vital – red cells last only 35 days and platelets a mere five days.

For more information phone 0300 123 23 23 or visit www.blood.co.uk.

Cars and trains are main threat to otters' survival

Kent only county where animals not thriving

KENT has been singled out as the worst place in the UK for otters to thrive, writes **Chris Murphy**.

Blame has been put on the sheer density of development and growth in the county which is creating too many dangerous road and rail crossings.

That is the claim from the Environment Agency, which has found the once endangered otter is now thriving in decent numbers in every English county except Kent.

It has made a remarkable comeback from the brink of extinction, the Environment Agency has said, but there are just too many road and rail crossings that are slaughtering the Kent population.

Otters almost disappeared from England in the 1970s, after pesticides routinely used three decades ago brought their numbers to near extinction levels. With those chemicals now banned, they are present once again in rivers across England.

Tom Reid is the technical specialist on the Environment Agency's fisheries, recreation and biodiversity team covering east Kent.

He told KoS: "There is a suggestion there are otters in the River Medway in the Maidstone area, but the population is so small it is probably not at a sustainable level.

"But there have been no sightings for the last three years. We have had no sightings on the River Stour for some time."

Mr Reid said movement is the main problem in Kent because of the many road and rail crossings over rivers. After otters are born they need to move on to find their own homes, and are being killed en route, he said.

"They can't do that because we have a dense infrastructure of road and rails which pose dangerous crossing points for them," he added.

"A solution would be to install proper safe crossings for otters at the time when new development is taking place. We have fantastic water quality now in the county; we have very good fish populations so there is nothing wrong with the environment where they can live, it's just the problems they have in reaching these areas."

Disruption

Jon Bramley, from the Kent Mammal Group, said: "It really is down to having money available to pay for these crossings.

"In some cases it would actually be quite easy to mole drill tunnels under roads and put a pipe in. It does not disrupt the road, and provides a relatively simple way for the otters to get across.

"But in these times it is all down to a lack of finances. Perhaps it will improve in the future, but that is the situation we find ourselves in."

Andy Crawford compiled the report for the Environment Agency.

He said: "I don't think otters are endangered anymore, but they're still not back at the numbers we would expect in England."



ENDANGERED: Otters thrive in rest of UK

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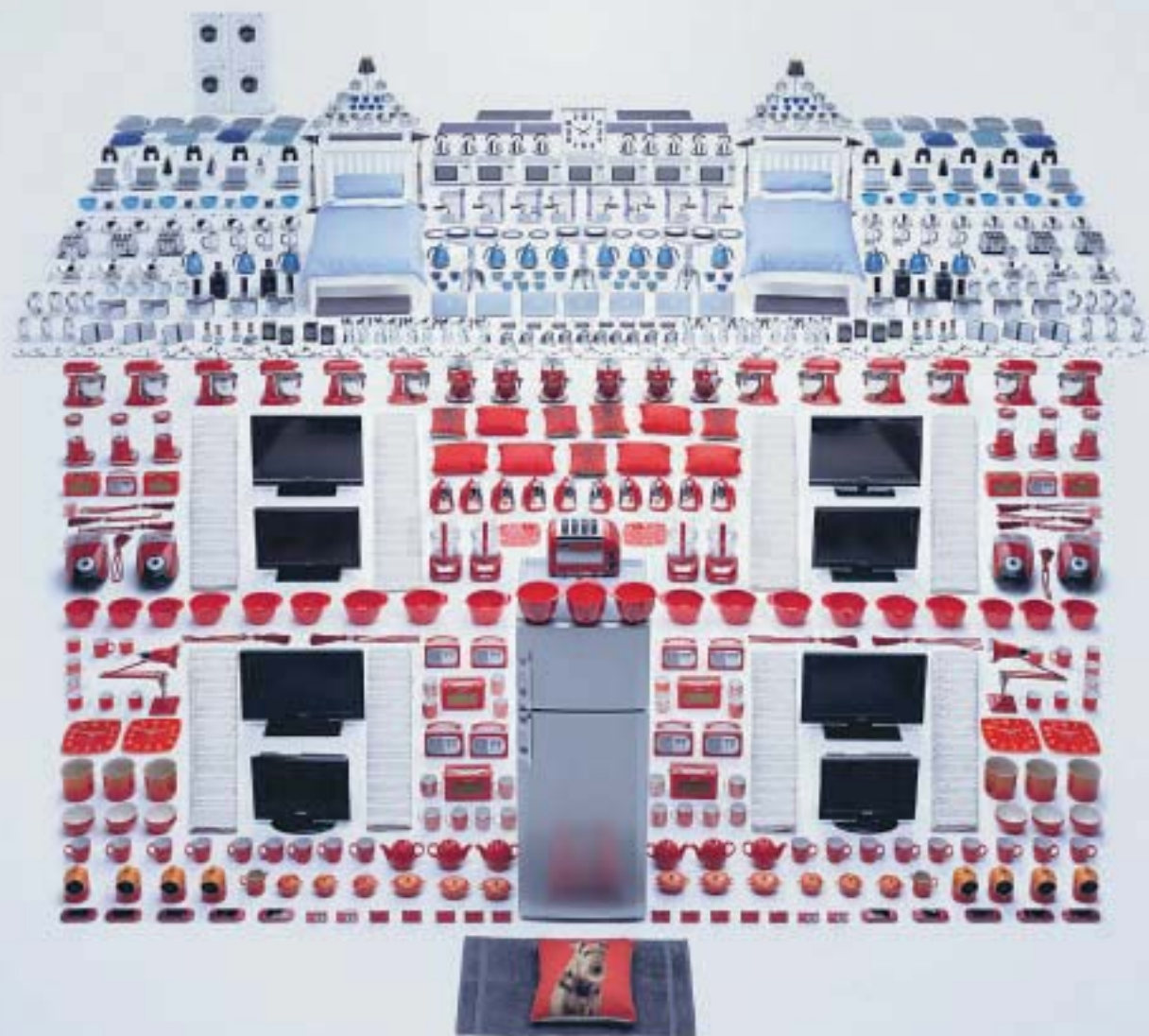


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Village greens

A VILLAGE'S efforts to reduce its carbon emissions by 20 per cent will be under discussion at Protect Kent Canterbury's AGM next month.

In 2007, Elham was chosen by Kent County Council with assistance from the Kent Energy Centre, as one of four villages in Kent to pioneer efforts to cut carbon emissions.

The Elham Low Carbon Initiative (ELCI) was launched to reduce the collective carbon emissions of the village by 20 per cent over the first year.

Reverend Canon David Ratcliff, chairman of the Elham Environmental Group (EEG), will be addressing the AGM on Monday, November 8, from 7.30pm.

The meeting at Thanington Neighbourhood Resource Centre, Ashford Road, Canterbury, is open to all.

COUNTY Hall chiefs have been accused of being economical with the truth to make the council appear more successful than it really is.

Last week Kent County Council published its Closedown report to demonstrate how staff have either completed or shown good progress in 62 of 63 targets set in 2006, in areas including education, health and the economy.

However, opposition members of the Tory-run council say the picture is not quite as rosy as portrayed in the study.

Speaking at a full council meeting last week, Kent Lib Dem leader Cllr Trudy Dean said: "We need to be able to learn from these targets, but many of them are not honest in the way we report them."

"For example, one of the targets was to reduce the number of people dependant on welfare benefits. We missed the target because the figure went up by about 17 per cent, but still we say we're making good progress."

Opponents dispute KCC's 'success' in hitting its targets

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

"We should be big enough and bold enough to admit when that's the case because we talk KCC up too much."

"We need to be honest with our staff while thanking them when they do an excellent job, which they have done in many cases."

Cllr Dean referred to the Government's new Health Watch scheme – which will give patients more of a say in how local health services are run – as another example of the authority awarding itself undue praise.

Vision

KCC claims the project was rolled out nationally after starting life as a telephone helpline in Kent, even though the two schemes share few similarities other than their names.

Speaking at the same meeting, Kent Labour leader Cllr Leslie Christie said: "Undoubtedly there are many good achievements in this report, but just be a little careful you don't bruise your spines by patting yourselves on the backs too hard, because it's not all upwards."

"In this report it doesn't matter how much

you miss the target by; it's still noted as 'making good progress'."

The targets were set by KCC four years ago as part of the authority's Towards 2010 document.

Council leader Cllr Paul Carter pointed out that since that time more than 1,400 apprentices have started work in the county thanks to the Kent Success Apprenticeship Scheme, and that more than 25 vocational skills centres have been set up.

Further examples of the success delivered since 2006 include the Kent School Games – which the Government is rolling out nationally – and the Kent Freedom Pass scheme for young people.

Cllr Carter added: "We have more school buildings fit for the 21st century, we have secured millions of pounds of inward investment, created practical support for Kent business and given better access to public services through the shared Gateway buildings."

"Our vision was to help more Kent residents into work, to unlock Kent's potential for regeneration, to give children and young people the best possible start in life, to improve quality of life, and to help residents feel safer."

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Henry's tower open for business

Leeds Castle royal bakehouse now available for private hire

AN HISTORIC stately home once owned by King Henry VIII has been restored and made available to private guests for the first time.

The Maiden's Tower at Leeds Castle, near Maidstone, also played host to legendary Hollywood parties in the 1920s and 1930s, and was the location for secret political discussions during World War Two.

Now the former 16th century bakehouse has been fully restored and reopened for use as a business conference venue or for private parties, receptions and weddings.

A spokesman said: "Every effort has been made to sensitively preserve and restore the fine Tudor features of the building.

Splendour

"The imposing entrance hall with its stone-flagged floor gives way to two large reception rooms with huge fireplaces and polished oak floorboards, and the French doors in the gallery open onto a charming private-walled garden where guests can enjoy a pre-dinner drink on the terrace or a stroll on the lawn.

"Upstairs there are five stunning bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, all beautifully decorated in period style with a contemporary twist and with views over the moat to the golf course and across the estate."

Built in the early 12th century to replace the earlier Saxon manor of Esledes, Leeds Castle was later home to a succession of

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

kings and queens. Perhaps its most famous owner was Henry VIII, who spent lavishly to transform the castle from a rugged fortress into a royal palace and was responsible for much of its splendour.

He ordered the construction of the Maiden's Tower in about 1544, in preparation for the visit of his first queen, Catherine of Aragon, to house the Royal Maids of Honour.

In recent years the tower was home to Susan Remington-Hobbs, whose mother Olive, Lady Baillie, bought Leeds Castle in 1920.

Remington-Hobbs, who helped to oversee the opening of the attraction to the public in 1976, died in 2001 at the age of 77.

Today, the Maiden's Tower is home to two conference rooms with enough space for 40 delegates boardroom-style, 100 theatre-style, or 50 in a U-shape.

It can also accommodate up to 60 guests for dinner and 120 for drinks receptions.

Couples attending a party or reception at the venue can stay over in one of bedrooms for the princely sum of £5,250 for one night or £9,710 for a weekend retreat package, with 35 additional rooms available elsewhere on the estate.

Visit www.leeds-castle.com to find out more information.



ROOMS WITH A VIEW: The 16th century Maiden's Tower at Leeds Castle has been restored



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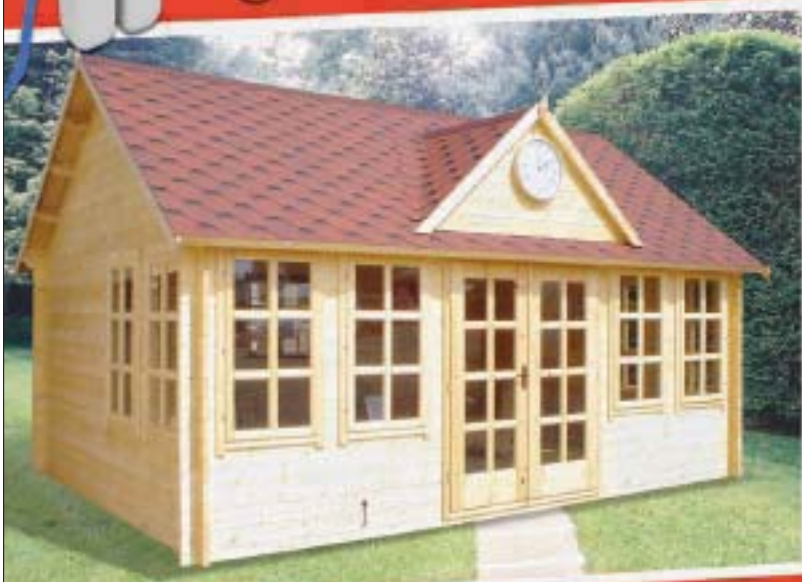
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Cameron's Big Society perfect marketing tool for businesses

LOCAL businesses have been urged to support the Government's Big Society idea by playing a more active role in community life, **writes Steve Knight.**

Digital marketing specialist Jonnie Jensen says companies should take a leaf out of their American counterparts' book by organising public events and contributing to good causes, thus raising their profile among potential customers.

Mr Jensen – who owns the Tmandi social media marketing firm – is taking part in a panel discussion on the subject at Archant KOS Media's Business Week Live event on Wednesday, November 10, at the Kent County Showground, Detling.

He said: "Social responsibility is something of a buzzword, but it's an element of people's marketing activity that has become increasingly important."

"As far as what I think the Big Society should be about, some larger companies are already getting involved, such as Tesco giving tokens for books for schools, computers, and so on."

"But I think that needs to start coming down to small and medium-size businesses too; not because it's a nice thing for them to do, but because they need to do something that gets them recognised by their target audience."

"But it needs to be in some way relevant to whatever the company is trying to sell."

"For example, it's not going to work if you've



IDEAS MAN: Mr Jensen excited by PM plan

got a morbidly obese businessman promoting healthy eating or sports in the community."

Prime Minister David Cameron launched the Big Society scheme in July, saying he wanted to empower communities by allowing groups of residents to have more of a say in how local decisions are made.

Examples include taking over the running of post offices and libraries, or forming committees to decide on local housing targets.

As well as encouraging greater volunteer-

ing and philanthropy, Mr Cameron has also confirmed plans to use funds stuck in dormant bank and building society accounts to enable charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups to take over the running of public services.

Alien concept

Mr Jensen reiterated his belief that small and medium-sized firms should take full advantage of the new strategy.

He said: "I think we are a way down the line

from the average guy in the street saying, 'yes, I think local businesses should give something back to the community'.

"But I've spent a lot of time in America and they organise events like food drives and street cleans all the time. It's not such an alien concept over there, but they don't call it 'Big Society' – they call it clever marketing."

See Business Week further in the paper for more information on Business Week Live, or go to www.businessweeklive.co.uk.



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Rich online tapestry of history

HISTORIC documents containing centuries-old information on Kentish towns have been made available for the first time on the internet, **writes Steve Knight**.

Developed by technology experts at the National Archives, the interactive Domesday Book contains all the data collected as part of William the Conqueror's great survey of England in 1086.

Visitors to the website can input their postcode and discover the original names and landowners of some of Kent's biggest towns, including Meddstone (Maidstone), Fulchestan (Folkestone) and Favreshant (Faversham). They can also purchase individual pages of the Latin book, along with an English translation, for £2 a time.

In addition, the new resource has been tied in with the UK History Photo Finder, which enables visitors to view more than 14,000 photographs taken by J Dixon Scott in the 1920s and 1940s.

"The site enables us to experiment with



SCREENSHOT: Domesday Book online

innovative features that can open up our records in new ways to a wider audience," said technology director David Thomas.

"The Domesday Book is unique. There's nothing else like it in the world from that date. It's one of our oldest records, but thanks to technology we've made all of its rich history available to anyone online.

"It provides a detailed survey for most of the country and tells us a lot about the land-lord structure and feudal laws, as well as local ecology, farming, woodland and so on."

While not all of Kent's towns and villages are mentioned in the Domesday Book, those

which are help provide a unique insight into the most influential people of the day.

For example, a quick search for Deal – referred to as both Addelam and Delam in 1086 – reveals land was owned by the likes of Ansektil, the archdeacon, and Aethelsige, abbot of St Augustine.

Mr Thomas said: "There's a strong interest in local history and now we can access a big part of it at the touch of a button. We can also refine our searches if we want to find out all the places with Viking names, all the places named after animals and so on. Making the book available online brings it to many more people and makes it much more accessible."

Meanwhile, the accompanying photographs by J Dixon Scott were captured during the course of his tours of the UK.

He took thousands of snapshots of landscapes, towns and people, building a portrait of British life in the inter-war years. The vast collection includes many pictures taken of historic landmarks in Kent, including Chatham Dockyard, the Bishop's Palace in Maidstone, and Canterbury's Westgate.

Visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/labs.



SNAPSHOTS: The National Archives Domesday Book online is tied in with the UK History Photo Finder, so individual pages of the 1086 Latin data can be viewed along with J Scott Dixon's inter-war years photos, including (from left) Maidstone, Canterbury and Chatham

Green MEP will start crisis talks

A SERIES of public debates on the hot political issues of the day is being held at Canterbury Christ Church University.

The Making Politics Matter campaign starts with South East Green MEP Keith Taylor's talk entitled: 'We're in a crisis – get us out of here! Tackling the economic and environmental crises – the way forward'.

The university's Dr David Bates said: "There are few more politically charged or pressing issues than the ecological and financial crisis. We look forward to hearing Mr Taylor's views."

The debate, which starts at 6.30pm on Friday, at the Old Sessions House lecture theatre, Canterbury, is free and open to all.

READERS of kentnews.co.uk are overwhelmingly against Medway's bid to win city in 2012. Some 1,515 people answered the question: 'Do you support Medway's city status bid?', with 80 per cent against the proposal.

A cultural heart

A BROMLEY High Street development will become the new cultural and recreational heart of the town, claims the Cathedral Group after signing an agreement with the council.

The developer says business sites will be designed around a central public piazza, and offers are already in from Vue Cinemas, Travelodge and Premier Inn.

The development will see the 600-space Westmoreland Road car park replaced by a mixed-use leisure development.

The scheme includes a nine-screen multiplex cinema, 25,000 sq ft of cafés and restaurants, a 150-bedroom business hotel, 173 private and affordable apartments and a new 400-space underground car park.

Work is due to start next year and scheduled to finish in 2012.

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Lord Lieutenant winning his second battle against cancer

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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THE Lord Lieutenant of Kent says "extreme aggression" is key to him overcoming his second battle with prostate cancer.

Allan Willett – the Queen's official representative in the county – thought he had beaten the illness 14 years ago, but fell ill again in May.

However, after just four months of radiotherapy followed by a period of convalescence, the Lord Lieutenant has returned to civic life and says he is relishing getting back to work.

"I was annoyed more than anything that the cancer was attacking me again," he told KoS.

"The added difficulty was that it had come back just a week after I had been diagnosed with mild Parkinsonism, and it was the combination of the two that caused real problems.

Frustrating

"My attitude has always been to treat the cancer with extreme aggression, and that is what I have been doing and will continue to do.

"The radiotherapy had completely sapped my energy and that was most frustrating for someone like me who has always been active.

"I was not able to carry on but had already handed over my lieutenantcy duties to my Vice Lord Lieutenant – Viscount De L'Isle – and my strong team of deputies, so I was able to go away and have a complete rest and recuperate."

Mr Willett, 74, is a former international businessman and philanthropist, having made his fortune from the packaging and plastics machinery industry.

He was appointed Lord Lieutenant in 2002, and since that time he and his wife Anne have carried out hundreds of public engagements throughout the county.

However, Mr Willett admitted he will have to take things easily following his most recent battle with cancer.

He said: "I am now officially back in the harness but common sense dictates that I must play myself back in gradually, with the intention of becoming fully operational at the end of November.

"The period of rest and recovery has defi-

nately been beneficial and I am now feeling much fitter.

"I look forward to resuming my public duties as the Queen's representative in the county and to completing my term of office, which ends on my 75th birthday in August next year."

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men, and is responsible for 25 per cent of newly diagnosed cases of cancer in England and Wales.

The chances of developing the illness increase as you get older, with most cases developing in men aged 65 or older.

When asked what advice he would offer to anybody else in his situation, Mr Willett replied: "I would say to anybody else diagnosed with cancer that they are not alone.

"There are so many wonderful people in healthcare today and remarkable treatments are available. In my case the Royal Marsden Hospital was marvellous."



FIGHTER: Lord Lieutenant Allan Willett is looking forward to resuming his duties

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University makes Eastern promise

THE University of Kent is looking east to generate cash as it launches a five-year fund-raising project aimed at generating £1 million to support new scholarships, student exchange, and research initiatives involving Hong Kong and China.

Vice-chancellor Prof Dame Julia Goodfellow announced the university's new Hong Kong and China Portal at a reception in Hong Kong this week.

Money raised over the next five years will support scholarship and hardship funding for Hong Kong and mainland Chinese students coming to study at Kent.

It will also help fund Kent students on exchanges with universities in Hong Kong and China.

It will also provide funding for staff and research interaction between Kent, its European partners and universities in Hong Kong and China.

Dame Julia said: "I believe this new initiative will prove to be of significant benefit to the economic, social and cultural growth of Hong and China and its relationship with Europe."

Not quite the end of the line

FROM turf-wars to the Great Train Robbery, the age of steam was more than just a revolution in transport, *writes Marijke Cox.*

According to author David Staines, Kent was transformed socially and economically by its arrival, and a rift between two railway bosses shaped the network we see today.

In Kent Railways: The Age of Steam, Mr Staines, from Orpington, looks at the railway from more than a mechanical perspective, recording its rise, fall and rebirth as part of the heritage industry.

Delving into the politics of the two rail companies in the 19th century – South Eastern Railway; and London, Chatham and Dover Railway – Mr Staines described the bitter rift between the chairmen which led to wasteful, duplicate lines running through the county.

“Edward Watkins, the chairman of South Eastern, and James Forbes, chairman of LC&D, were constantly competing,” said Mr Staines. “They would have lines built just to



JOURNEY'S END: Steam locomotive at Shepherdswell, near Dover, in 1959

better the other and there was nothing anyone could do about it.

“Some were financially crippling. It was only when these two were gone the companies amalgamated and became South Eastern and Chatham Railway.”

In his book, Mr Staines chronicles the rise of the steam engine and its demise with the introduction of electric technology. He also focuses on the new-found popularity

of the historical age of steam.

“Many volumes have been written about the railways of Kent, from the lines themselves to the locomotives and rolling stock,” he said.

“This book attempts to look upon it from a different perspective. The history and development of the system is an inescapable part of the overall story, but that story also encompasses the social effects, economic changes and opportunities the railways brought.”

Mr Staines said while the age of steam is regarded by many with a “misty-eyed” nostalgia, it may not have been so good for those who had to use it every day. He said: “The reality is that while it died a mostly unlamented death, it has been reborn, phoenix-like, in the leisure and heritage industry.”

“To this day, Kent’s hundreds of thousands of commuters, while no longer pulled by steam, have their journeys influenced by the builders of the railways of that age, even down to the fundamental decision of where to live.”

• **For a copy of the book, priced £9.99 go to, www.countrysidebooks.co.uk.**

Roman coins a ‘treasure’ haul

A HOARD of Roman coins discovered on the outskirts of Maidstone has been officially declared as treasure.

A total of 4,653 copper-alloy coins from the 4th century AD were found during a dig at a recreational ground in Snodland.

The coins, known today as nummus, were inscribed with the words ‘happy times are here again’, in Latin.

Historians believe the motto was referring to Romans celebrating the 1,100th anniversary of the founding of Rome.

The find was made by Mathew Bulmer in 2006 for Archaeology South East ahead of a proposed housing development for the area.

At an inquest in Maidstone, coroner Roger Sykes deemed the find to be treasure.

This means the finder has to offer the items for sale to a museum at a price set by an independent board of experts.

The British Museum was consulted on the coins ahead of the inquest.

Mr Sykes said: “This is a significant find. I am satisfied the antiquity of the coins and their number constitutes treasure. Now procedures of acquiring the finds can be made by Maidstone Museum to the finders.”

Appeal dropped by Vicky’s killer

SERIAL killer Peter Tobin has dropped an appeal against his life sentence for murdering Scottish schoolgirl Vicky Hamilton.

The 63-year-old is serving a 30-year sentence for 15-year-old Vicky’s murder in 1991, along with life sentences for the murder of two other young women.

Vicky’s remains were found buried in the garden of Tobin’s former home in Irvine Drive, Margate, 17 years after her abduction.

A court had been due to hear his appeal on Friday, but received notification that he had abandoned his plea.

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MP Laura speaks up on behalf of fellow epileptics

Tory wants end to condition's stigma

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

AN EPILEPTIC MP has called on the Government to ensure fellow sufferers are not stigmatised in education or employment.

Thanet South representative Laura Sandys is chairman of the All Party Group for Epilepsy, and she spoke during a debate in the House of Commons on behalf of others who share her condition.

"Epilepsy can impact people in many different ways," she said. "For my part I have only ever had five seizures in my life, while for others it can dominate their lives."

Seizure

"Whatever the condition, there is a stigma that can limit your opportunities and it certainly creates some barriers in both schooling and employment."

"We must give young epileptics a good start in life at school. That is not about wrapping them up in cotton wool, creating an exclusion zone around them awaiting their next seizure."

"It is about understanding that they might, or more likely might not, have a fit from time to time."

"In addition there are multiple barriers facing epileptics in getting employment. Why should someone who is seizure-free not be able to make as important a contribution to the workplace as anyone else?"

According to the NHS, epilepsy affects about 456,000 people in the UK, including one in every 280 children.

Seizures occur when the electrical impulses sent out by the cells in the brain are disrupted, causing both the brain and the body to behave strangely.

In some cases seizures cause patients to experience a trance-like state for a few seconds or minutes, whereas in other cases they will lose consciousness and have convulsions.

Ms Sandys said: "Even as an MP I am restricted to what I can do. I'm not allowed to climb the steps to the top of Big Ben as I am epileptic, despite the fact I haven't had a seizure for more than seven years."

"But it is also those who do have regular and persistent seizures that we must support."

"We must ensure we increase the seizure-free rate from 50 per cent to 75 per cent and provide those who cannot ensure a seizure-free life with the support we need."



DEBATE: Tory MP Laura Sandys spoke in the House of Commons about her condition

House fires lead to warning over chimneys left unswept

WITH cold weather firmly setting in and many people thinking of lighting a fire in the grate, Kent Fire and Rescue Service has reminded residents about the importance of getting chimneys swept.

The alert follows call outs to five separate chimney fires last weekend in Charing, Marden, Hartley, Rusthall and Mersham.

A build-up of soot and ash from last winter can lead to the chimney catching fire.

KFRS community safety delivery manager, Lawrence Pater, said: "Fortunately, no-one was injured in these incidents, however fires of this nature can



COLD COMFORT: But is your chimney safe?

slowly smoulder, remaining undetected for long periods of time, with potentially devastating results."

Kent Fire and Rescue Service provides free home fire safety advice – call the community safety team on 0800 923 7000.

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Bollywood recorder cautioned

A MAN caught red-handed illegally recording a film in the Cineworld Cinema at Bexleyheath has received a police caution. Staff called police after they saw the 37-year-old using his mobile phone to record a Bollywood film. He was arrested for infringing copyright laws. PC John Horton said: "It's a criminal offence to record films directly from cinema screens."

Recordings made in cinemas using camcorders, mobile phones or other devices account for the source material of most counterfeit DVDs and illicit internet files, say police.

Coastline defences bolstered

A £1.1 MILLION sea defence project to protect the Seasalter to Graveney coastline from the threat of flooding has been completed. The Environment Agency says without the work many properties along this stretch of the north Kent coast would be at risk of flooding within five years.

About 473 households now have improved protection. Ian Nunn of the EA said: "With our climate changing and sea levels rising, the risks and numbers of people affected are likely to increase, so I'm pleased this vital project has been completed."

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FAIR COP: Insp Geoff Wood flanked by Romanian traffic officers during their visit

Romanian police get Kent help to cut deaths

ROMANIAN police paid a visit to Kent amid continuing calls for a cross-border clampdown on law-breaking foreign motorists.

The officers' trip to the Garden of England was part of a 'lifesaver project' by the European traffic police network TISPOL, which aims to help six EU member states – Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia and Spain – reduce road deaths.

But the visit also demonstrated how international forces can work together to tackle the problem of irresponsible foreign drivers. Insp Geoff Wood said: "We have had the opportunity to share experiences and working practices, learning from each other."

"Kent is the gateway to Europe and we continue to forge links with other European forces and explore ways of unifying practices."

"On a lighter note, the look of surprise when a Romanian trucker was confronted by four officers from his homeland when stopped at the M20 services was amusing."

Romania has a population of 21.8 million people, and last year there were 2,796 road deaths in the country.

In comparison, the UK has a population of 61 million, with 2,222 deaths in 2009.

Last year there were 702 deaths in Kent, which has a population of 1.4 million.

Dumitru Petcu of the Romanian traffic police said: "English officers use more technology and have a different approach. We have certainly been given ideas on how we can look towards reducing casualties at home."

Meanwhile, TISPOL has reiterated the need for cross-border legislation to tackle the growing problem of law-breaking foreign motorists. Representatives from the organisation attended a meeting of European decision-makers on Thursday, last week, and urged them to introduce new legislation as a matter of urgency.

Despite accounting for just five per cent of the traffic on European roads, foreign drivers are responsible for 15 per cent of speeding offences and most escape unpunished after they return home.

TISPOL director Ad Hellemons said: "The need to strengthen and improve EU co-operation in the field of road safety has never been greater, and the challenge of increasing non-resident road traffic requires Europe-wide action to prevent more road users driving away from justice."

"We appeal to all member states to find a solution so the legislation can be taken forward. It will make a difference, but most of all it will save lives."



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Famine needs global response

World Food Day aims to help ease the struggles of ‘food insecurity’

By **MARIJKE COX**

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A CHARITY head has called for the international community to support World Food Day by recognising the chronic food shortage faced by people across the globe.

Phillippa Crossland-Taylor, Oxfam's country director for Kenya, said the British public were "incredibly generous" when responding to emergency appeals, but that famine was a part of everyday life for many families and not just as a result of major disasters.

Speaking from Nairobi, Ms Crosland-Taylor, from Bromley, told KoS she and her team were introducing a range of programmes with help from the Kenyan government to ensure a sustainable future for people living in the country, where the ing has moved from 'serious' to 'o

To bring home the message, the theme for this year's World Food Day last Saturday was United Against Hunger. The aim was to address the problem with famine, where one in six people around the world is going hungry.

Ms Crosland-Taylor, who has worked in the charitable sector for 20 years, said under-investment in places like Kenya, combined with drought and climate change, has meant thousands of families starving.

"Kenya doesn't have social security – if someone can't find work or is too sick to work, they don't have any money to buy food," she said.

"People go to the capital Nairobi because they believe the streets are paved with gold, but they live in the slums and are unable to find work."

The 49-year-old, who grew up in Beckenham, said she was working on a range of projects to help stop the rising levels of 'food insecurity' and educate people in sustaining a better life.

"There is no point helping by giving food and then walking away," she said.

"We need to be able to educate people in how to help themselves and their families."

Since taking up the role as country director for Kenya in 2010, Rosland-Taylor has witnessed rising levels of food insecurity because of drought and flooding.

Agriculture is the stronghold of the Kenyan economy and more than 80 per cent of the country's population receives its income from farming of some kind.



DECIMATED FLOCK: Dahira, a farmer who recently arrived in Wajir, with the sole surviving sheep from her flock

But with erratic rainfall combined with climate change, the food shortage has worsened, and in 2009 some 3.5 million Kenyans were classed as food insecure.

Ms Crosland-Taylor said: "We always need support from the public in some way so we can avoid massive loss of life."

"If someone has 1,000 goats, for example, and is having trouble keeping them, we don't want to wait until they have one left before we help them."

Oxfam is helping communities in some areas of Kenya start alternative farming away from livestock, such as growing gum and raisins.

The charity is also working with other agencies to provide food vouchers to use with local traders.

Ms Crosland-Taylor said they were also working on sanitation initiatives and water projects.



DROUGHT FEARS: Ibrahim Adan (right) father of five, in Al Das village: “I own 20 cattle, but there is no water for them here so my brother has taken them to Ethiopia to try to find pasture – but I don’t know if he will succeed. Some of the men and I have started a vegetable garden to try to find an alternative way of earning money – we grow tomatoes, onions, kale and sweet potatoes. We don’t want to rely on relief food. Before the drought we grew lots, but the vegetables need water to grow and there are not enough boreholes here. Without water we have nothing. The drought is getting more frequent – in the past 10 years, five have given bad rains.”

World Food Day is an annual event run by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, which heightens awareness of the problem with hunger as well as promoting agricultural food production.

- To support World Food Day, go to www.fao.org.

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LONG TIME COMING: Mark Young has three films recently aired on television

Perseverance pays off before Young gets old

BEING an independent film-maker is tough – no luck for years and then you get three films on TV at once.

That's what has happened to Mr Young, as he is known professionally.

In real life Mark Young teaches Year 6 youngsters at Thamesview Junior School in Rainham.

But the 38-year-old, who is due to marry one of his stars in the next half term, said he is also a mad keen film-maker.

After years of waiting, three of his micro-budget movies appeared on British television – all within eight days.

He said: "My first feature film called East 3 – Exploring a Frozen Frontier, was on Sky TV on October 15; then the short Poco Wants To Go also screened on the same channel on October 7, and then another short called The Moon, The Eye was on October 13.

"I could not be happier at the moment. It has taken a long hard slog, but this sort of result makes it all worthwhile.

"I made East 3 in 2003, and it has taken this long to get on air. If I had to give advice to other filmmakers it would always be, never give up.

"This is a feature length documentary shot in the remote Arctic town of Inuvik.

"I was working there as a teacher and did all the filming in my spare time.

"I am determined to keep going and making more. Plenty more projects are in my head and I have started writing."



Shaun of the Dead star and Gollum unite to play notorious 19th century killers in John Landis' black comedy

How killer script got Simon's blood rushing

DEADLY DUO: (l-r) Simon Pegg (Shaun of the Dead) and Andy Serkis (Lord of the Rings) shot scenes from Burke and Hare in Sevenoaks

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

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ONE OF the blackest comedies to hit the big screen since Shaun of the Dead is out later this month, and much of it was filmed in Kent.

And by coincidence, Burke and Hare stars Shaun star Simon Pegg, who is joined in the title roles by Andy Serkis, who was in King Kong and the Lord of the Rings movies.

Producers for the gritty film held auditions in Sevenoaks for extras, including those who would be playing prostitutes, pub customers and 'people in the background'.

Grim

Pegg and Serkis play Scotland's infamous grave robbers-cum-serial killers William Burke and William Hare, who made a living in the 19th century by selling bodies to Edinburgh Medical School.

It's a grim storyline, but the film plays it for laughs – as much as movie about murdering to sell bodies for medical research can be funny.

Director John Landis, who made the Blues Brothers, and Trading Places, as well as Michael Jackson's Thriller video, said: "A week's shooting took place at Knole House,



WEAPONS OF CHOICE: Simon Pegg (Burke) and Andy Serkis (Hare) play killers who sold bodies for medical research

an amazing National Trust country estate and house in Sevenoaks, which doubled for Edinburgh's bustling market square, where Burke's hanging eventually took place."

It's claimed the two Irish immigrants murdered 17 victims between 1827-28, selling the bodies to the Edinburgh Medical School for students to practice their dissection. They duo were paid the grand price of £3 per corpse.

Pegg said: "I liked the moral maze of this script. It's complex in terms of what the audience are expected to do in terms of supporting Burke and Hare.

"They are a couple of murderers and the

script never really denies that, but it does encourage you to kind of sympathise with them, which is interesting because what they do is morally reprehensible.

"But because they are painted as human beings and you don't really know anything about their victims, you start to feel sorry for them.

"At the end you realise they are murderers, but another kind of murderer.

"Within the story, there's the executioner who murders for money, there's Knox and Monro the doctors who are unscrupulous and there are the gangsters, there are a lot of preconceptions so you have to re-evaluate."

Other stars include Isla Fisher, Tom Wilkinson, Tim Curry, Ronnie Corbett, Bill Bailey, Hugh Bonneville and Sir Christopher Lee.

Landis said: "It is a dark comedy with an unusual and witty screenplay which gave me the opportunity to make something very different and to work in England again with some wonderful actors.

"The tone is fun, sad, dark, romantic, silly, scary and hopefully entertaining."

Producer and Ealing studio chief Barnaby Thompson said: "I thought there was something marvellously twisted about the idea of Edinburgh, the medical capital of the world, having this dirty secret because it needs dead bodies in order to feed the medical research machine."



SPINE-CHILLERS: 2 Days Later festival films (l-r) Kitten in a Cat Trap, Mind The Gap, Risen, Samsa Wandelt, Therapy and Two Shorts Later should have viewers holding their breath

Later viewing as horror movie festival returns

A FESTIVAL of horror films will include several shockers made in Kent.

The annual 2 Days Later festival returns to the Theatre Royal, Margate, and will be a programme of horror shorts bursting with blood and terror.

The organisers, Margate-based Beeping Bush Productions, and the Theatre Royal, said there will be a dark and unwholesome run of gory movies that took just two days to make, hence the event's name.

Organiser Mick Etherton said it will showcase filmmakers' warped imaginations.

In all, 51 film entries are being screened on Saturday, October 30, including a

Californian zombie conspiracy and a Swiss spine-chiller.

Amazingly, 24 films were produced in the South East region, including 12 from Kent and four from Thanet itself.

Among the Kent entries are Kitten in a Cat Trap, Mind the Gap, Risen, Samsa Wandelt, Therapy, and Two Shorts Later.

Mr Etherton, from Beeping Bush, said: "We are delighted with the local efforts this year.

"It's great to know there are so many home-grown fans who have enough in them to actually go ahead and produce these films.

"There are few things in the Thanet film calendar more exciting than the start of a

new 2 Days Later horror competition screening, and in that vein we're terribly pleased to bring you our Feast of Gruesome Terror, Fearsome Zombie Mayhem and Generally Nasty Goings On – on the very eve of Halloween."

Despite the event naturally being only open to those over 18, there is actually something for everyone, with audiences as much inclined to laugh as to scream. Judges will have to plough through the guts of all the shorts to find the best in the various classes and come up with the final 'Devil's Dozen'.

The horror-themed short films will be screened in two parts: matinee screenings

from midday, and the prestigious evening screening, from 7pm.

At the end will be the award presentations with prizes going to a variety of categories including Best Film, Best Writer, and Best Performance. There will also be an audience vote for Most Popular Film.

The film-makers are competing for the opportunity to develop their career by winning a week's broadcast quality high definition full camera kit hire from sponsor VMI High Definition and Broadcast.

Among the judges will be James Moran, a screenwriter for Severance, Torchwood, Dr Who and Spooks.

LETTERS

Quick buck or proper home

Great newspaper and a good article on the high costs of housing in the county. A big problem for first-time buyers is they have to compete with buy-to-let investors for the same type of property.

Buy-to-let investors enjoy considerable tax concessions not available to the young first-time buyer.

Interest on loans and other routine house costs are allowed as a tax concessions to buy-to-let purchasers.

This distorts the market to the disadvantage of the young first-time buyer, who is simply looking to buy a home and not just to make a fast buck. Tax concessions should be extended to first-time buyers, which I had when I bought my first home in 1965.

Will Harket, retired property surveyor; Sidcup

Debate stifled by deference

Reading Kent Union vice-president Lauren Crowley's Opinion last week, I have to say I agree with her, especially on students' unwillingness to make a stand. I listened to a debate at Kent University attended by Canterbury and Whitstable MP Julian Brazier.

I waited outside the Grimond Building to greet him, with others, and overheard Mr Brazier say: "Here are the socialists" to a reporter. I have no idea what was said at the beginning of the debate as I was five minutes late, but after he and two other debaters introduced themselves and gave their opinions on the Browne Report, I was a little surprised at the deference given to Mr Brazier.

However, things became clear when a friend who sat separately told me after the debate that, however many times he put up his hand to ask a question, he was always sidelined. He was one of Mr Brazier's "socialists", I suspect.

I have to say, it was no Question Time. There was a buffet outside when I left, like it was some kind of Tory get-together, and after I spoke to my friend I thought Mr Brazier a wily old fox.

He also, proudly I thought, announced he was one of John Major's so-called 'B*st*rds' who backed John Redwood's campaign against the former PM in the 1990s.

This debate mirrored the hustings debates before this year's General Election, where intermediaries were used to keep things dignified, yet stifled.

None of the candidates pointed out that Mr Brazier and the Labour candidate ignored the first hustling – I guess it was beneath them.

I don't want to see this country go back to the dark old days, where what kind of education you got depended on the wealth of your parents, which it does now, but not so starkly as when I left school.

I was accepted on an engineer-

OPINION: NOT TOO LATE TO HAVE A SAY

Nothing has been decided and there is still time to make your views known on KCC's plans for the future of care homes, says **CLLR GRAHAM GIBBENS**

BELIEVE passionately that looking after older people is one of the priorities for society. Providing the right care to the right quality and in a quality environment is part of that.

Just under 18 weeks ago, on June 21, I started talking to people at length and in depth about the future of Kent County Council's residential care homes. Right through the summer and into autumn, I have been glad of the chance to meet so many people who feel passionately about this subject. Now, with eight days to go until this consultation ends on November 1, I want to call on anyone who hasn't yet had their say to get in touch. People can get in contact through the website, www.kent.gov.uk/op/futures, or by post or email.

Right the way through the consultation, I have encouraged the use of a wide range of ways for people to express their views. We are determined to make sure all those views are heard – from residents and their families to colleagues in the health service, from staff and unions to fellow politicians across the county, as well as the wider public.

I know people are still talking about the proposals, which are about making sure the elderly have high quality care and dignity, while also looking at the long-term future for care and support and making sure money is spent wisely and carefully.

Officers and I have endeavoured to get to as many meetings as we can and talk to as many people as we can. We will continue listening as we go into the last week of the consultation and all these views will be taken into account.

From my point of view, there is an immense challenge ahead as the county council looks carefully at how to balance the needs of today's older people with planning for the future.

In the 19th century, the idea of local government taking care of older people was a foreign concept.

While 30 years ago, most people might have expected to be taken into an old people's home as a matter of course. Tomorrow's older people are already telling us they will want to stay at home for as long as possible and to keep their independ-

ence. The proposal for KCC's residential care homes is to transfer some into a partnership arrangement, use the sites of others to build extra care housing, close some entirely and sell one off as a going concern. Many people have very real concerns about these changes and about the future for members of their family, or friends, currently living in one of the 11 homes involved.

I know it can be difficult for people who disagree with the proposal to believe how sincere my interest is in what critics are saying about it.

However, there would have been little value in talking to people about the future of these services if KCC had not already given some consideration to the best way forward. So when the consultation began, it was on the basis

of what we believed was the best starting point. The county council has a duty, which it takes very seriously, to make sure residential and day care is provided for those who need it. At the same time, it also has a duty to look to how services are delivered in the future.

Working in a way that balances these duties will, of course, bring tensions. This is something that I am very aware of and I know not everyone will share the same priorities. Part of what I will need to do, once the consultation is finished and reports are written for each home, is look at how these priorities should be balanced against each other – how the very immediate needs of today are approached in the light of future needs.

It is crucial that people in residential care have quality care and choice. The same is true for tomorrow's older people, whose choices will reflect their own priorities. At the same time, we need to make sure the physical environment that care is provided in is as good as it can be – and that public money is spent wisely.

No decision has been taken and nothing will be decided until January. Even if the proposal is agreed, any changes would be based on detailed work with each and every individual and their family or carer. Nothing would happen overnight.

Finally, no changes would be made until alternative provision is in place.

• **CLlr Graham Gibbens is KCC's cabinet member for adult social services**



Shattered promises are taking their toll

PROMISES are made to be broken – but when it comes to the Dartford crossing they are shattered repeatedly.

Nineteen years ago the Conservative government of the time made a pledge that motorists would only be charged to use the new Queen Elizabeth II Bridge until the cost of building the structure had been met.

But now, more than seven years after that particular target was achieved, those who use the crossing have learned they will soon have to pay £2.50 for the privilege.

It's all very well the Government telling us we must all do our bit to help tackle the deficit, but where else in the UK are taxpayers being held to ransom for a service they should not even be paying for in the first place?

In order to legitimise the toll, it is now officially referred to as a congestion charge, even though the purpose of such a levy is to dissuade motorists from driving in a certain area.

Perhaps drivers would be inclined to accept that excuse if they actually had anywhere else to go. In reality, there is no feasible alternative.

While it is good news that the Government appears committed to tackling congestion and pollution at the crossing, this is not the way to go about it.

Kent's motorists pay more than enough in vehicle excise duty, insurance and fuel charges already. It is simply unacceptable they should be forced to stump up even more to use a crossing that, by rights, should already belong to them.

It's very good to see you back, sir

IT'S great to see the Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Allan Willett, get back to work just five months after being diagnosed with his second bout of prostate cancer.

A true man of the county, Mr Willett has given generously of both his time and money over the years and receives our warmest wishes.

ing course but was forced to give up so I could get £25 a week on a government scheme to put a roof over my head.

School leavers should think about this, as it might happen to them.

This recession is much worse than the 1980s, when greed was good and selfishness the be all and end all.

Jonathan Elliott, Whitstable

Driver should heed lesson

The Maidstone man who gives the impression he is revelling in the publicity received for escaping a speeding fine on an administrative technicality shouldn't be rejoicing.

Indeed, perhaps he should be engaging in a bit more self-criticism of his driving.

Instead of boasting about how he "beat a speed camera rap", he'd do far better to treat this incident as a salutary lesson and an opportunity to improve his driving.

Christopher Hudson-Gool, Maidstone

Clean energy opportunity

News that the Department of Energy and Climate Change has ruled out a new nuclear power station at Dungeness will come as a relief to many, while others will be concerned about the impact on jobs.

As the region's MEP, I too want to see more jobs for local people in Kent.

But there are more jobs in clean, renewable energy generation that won't leave future generations the toxic legacy of nuclear waste.

Nuclear is dirty, dangerous and expensive. We know that stations are vulnerable to accidents and attacks, and the costs of decommissioning nuclear facilities and dealing with nuclear waste are astronomical.

Even aside from all this, according to Natural England, Dungeness C would have had serious environmental consequences for the unique local ecosystem. Instead of keeping

us dependant on nuclear and energy supplies from abroad, the Government must seize the opportunities in creating a low-carbon future now. Other countries are succeeding where we are failing.

The European Union has just allocated 114 million euros for local energy efficiency projects; now the UK must get better at leveraging in investments.

We must not miss out on the chance to lead the way in clean energy.

By channelling money and directing investment into energy efficiency and more renewable projects like the Thanet offshore wind farm, we can create jobs, cut emissions and reduce the energy crisis at the same time.

Keith Taylor MEP (Green), South East England

Backing Ffello farm feed bill

Robert Ffello, the MP for Stoke-on-Trent is spearheading the drive for

planet-friendly farming by taking forward a new bill in the House of Commons to limit the climate and wildlife damage caused by factory farming.

The Ffello bill aims to reduce British meat and dairy factory farms' dependence on animal feed grown in South America which is destroying rainforests and wildlife and accelerating climate change.

UK farmers need help to thrive by protecting them from yo-yoing animal feed costs and ensuring they are not squeezed by big business farming.

At the moment, our Government spends more than £700 million of taxpayers' money each year proping up damaging factory farms while planet-friendly farmers receive little or no support.

East Kent FoE are urging the county's MPs to support the campaign and to support the Ffello bill at its second reading stage in November.

Visit www.jointhemoovement.com for more information.

Stuart Cox, East Kent Friends of the Earth, Deal

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29



Do you want a second bite at the cherry?

KOSmedia **BUSINESS** **WEEK** **Live**

Kent Showground, Detling, Wednesday, 10th November 2010, 9.00am - 4.00pm

Business Week Live 2010 is designed to help you prepare for the challenges ahead to ensure a successful 2011.

Whether your company is small or large, public or private, the business landscape is quickly changing. In the wake of the public spending review and ongoing debate about 'The Big Society', there will be much discussion about where future opportunities will lie. As one door closes another opens, **Business Week Live 2010** will help you locate the open doors.

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- FREE access to over £2500 worth of training resource to ensure your staff are ready for growth
- An opportunity to network and meet with other like minded business people

Business Week Live 2010 is different, it has to provide true value to attendees, so this isn't just a turn up and talk event, there are many tough challenges for business to just stay alive let alone develop and innovate. **Business Week Live 2010** aims to provide access to as much helpful advice, tools, expertise and free services for you to tap into.

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BIRTHS

CAMPLING

Logan Alex, born on 25th September 2010 weighing 8lbs. Special son to James and Anna.

DEAL

Lance and Kelly of Canterbury are delighted and proud to announce the birth of their son, Harvey Jayden Deal, on 13th October 2010 at 6.04pm. A new brother for Owen and Logan.

ENSINGER

Phoebe Louise Ensinger born on the 11th October 2010 weighing 7lb 15oz, daughter to Charlene and Dwight of Maidstone.

EVANS

Cameron and Heidi of Tunbridge Wells are delighted to announce the birth of their son Lewis Alexander Evans, born 11th October 2010 weighing 6lb 13oz.

FLETCHER

Luke Oscar Fletcher born on the 4th October 2010 weighing 8lb 7.5oz. Son to John and Lisa, brother to Matthew. Another beautiful and precious son.

MUMBY

Danny Jack born on 8th October 2010, weighing 8lbs 10ozs. Son to Andy and Fran, and brother to Mollie and Martha.

SEAL

Kelly and Jon Seal of Tunbridge Wells are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Abigail Joan, born 12th October 2010, weighing 8lb 9oz.

DEATHS

BRAMLEY

Joyce Margaret, passed away peacefully on 17th October 2010. Much loved Mum and Nan of Stephen, Mary, Lauren and Kyle. Sadly missed, rest in peace.

FOOT

Penny Foot passed away peacefully on 1st October, aged 72, after a brief

illness at St. Stephen's Nursing Home, fondly remembered by many.

McLEOD

Stuart Francis McLeod aged 67 died on 15th October 2010, Funeral service at St Francis Church on Wednesday 27th October at 12.30pm, and committal at Vinters Park at 2pm. Husband of Miriam, father of Natalie and Marie, grandfather of Kalani, Freya and Aaron. Donations to the Heart of Kent Hospice.

WEATHERLY

Robert Carl Weatherly passed away on the 14th October 2010 at the Pilgrims Hospice, Margate.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

Pavement parking is out of control

I wish they would put a few parking fines on cars in Thanet. The pavement is no longer for pedestrians, it is for the courageous and swift of feet.

We now have to share the pavements with adults on bikes, cars, lorries and all other motorised vehicles. Years ago I found a police message on my windscreen, stating: 'If your car is found parked with one wheel slightly on the pavement again you will receive a fine and a bill for any damage done to the kerb you have mounted.'

The practice is completely unacceptable now, as large vans and cars are parked for hours on end on the pavement.

I have seen mothers with prams walking in the road to get past parked vehicles, yet no tickets have been issued.

Haven't we any police with the authority to issue tickets to offending car owners?

What are we turning in to? No thought to the laws of the land and no respect shown for where they live.

Mrs C Russell, Dumpton

Can you help with family research?

I would be grateful if any readers who may have been researching the Pearson/Walsh families in Kent could be of assistance.

A client at the Berwick Record Office who is researching both families has so far found the information listed below. He is keen on expanding this, however this proving difficult.

In particular information on the children of Leonard and Anastasia Pearson, Iris (eight), Hilda (five) and Alexandra (10 months), who resided at 34 Chaucer Road, Gillingham, in 1911.

Also information on James Walsh, father of Anastasia Pearson (née Walsh), who was a police officer at

Chatham Dockyard. James Walsh was born in Ireland around 1840. Any information on his Irish roots would be appreciated.

Leonard Pearson was born in 1879 in Maidstone, son of James and Maud Pearson. Anastasia Walsh was born in 1879 at Chatham, daughter of James and Ann Elizabeth Walsh. Leonard Pearson and Anastasia Walsh were married in September, 1901.

According to the 1901 census, Leonard and Anastasia Pearson were living in Medway. Leonard was a brick-layer and Anastasia an assistant schoolmistress. In the 1911 census, Leonard and 'Anastacia' [sic] were still living in Medway, at 34 Chaucer Road, Gillingham. They had three children: Iris, Hilda and Alexander. Leonard's occupation is listed as a carpenter and joiner. There is no occupation listed for Anastasia. In December, 1929, an Anastasia V Pearson died, aged 49, in Medway. In September, 1941, a Leonard C Pearson died, aged 62, in Chatham. Both may not be the same Leonard and Anastasia mentioned, as both have a middle name.

However their age at death matches them both being born in 1879 with the possibility that their middle names have not been mentioned in the census.

Readers can contact me by email at kevin.myemail@gmail.com.

Kevin Graham, Berwick Record Office
Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland

EU taking the rise

Clearly George Osborne had quaffed one too many £150 glasses of the world's most expensive wine on the eve of announcing his much criticised child benefit cuts.

It is abundantly clear to those of us who have not been drinking in the Westminster village that there is no need for these dracon-

ian cuts. The coalition is not only protecting and ring-fencing foreign aid and the NHS, but the EU as well. There has been no conversation about the fact the UK is paying £48 million a day to the EU while threatening to cut child benefit and do irreparable damage to higher education in this country by placing no cap on fees for university education. But our MPs in Westminster will have to approve an increase in expenditure for, you guessed it, the EU. The amount we pay the EU will rise from £6.4 billion to £8.3bn in 2011/12. And it gets worse – in 2012 we will have to pay the EU £10.3bn. But the political elite still refuse to allow the people to discuss or vote on our membership of this expensive, elitist European club. What have they got to hide?

Jon Gaunt, EU Referendum Campaign

Nation on the slide

To my mind this country has been steadily going downhill since the EU was formed. This so-called coalition Government and the previous one are very quick to tell us the cost of everything – except the EU and immigrants.

They come here and jump the queue for housing, benefits, healthcare and schooling. Without having put anything in, they are taking vast sums that working people have to pay taxes to provide.

Is it any wonder they walk around with big smiles, while those who have to supply the money aren't quite sure how to make ends meet, or even if they will have a job soon.

Then there is there EU. For every pound we put in, they are kind enough to return 50p. Do we really need two governments to run this little country that is bursting at the seams?

Were the indigenous population ever asked if that is what they want? It really doesn't matter who you vote for – whoever wins ignores what people want.

RE Tucker, Sheerness

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'Learning dynamo' Kate wins award

SCIENCE teacher Kate Champion has been named Outstanding New Teacher of the Year in the latest Teaching Awards for the South East and London.

The Cambridge graduate is in control of two of the most challenging year 11 groups at Cator Park School in Beckenham, and is heavily involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Her enthusiasm for the subject has led to the largest ever uptake of triple science at the school.

"Kate comes across very much as a learning dynamo," said one of the judges. "She is a source of almost boundless energy and enthusiasm who draws people to her in support of students' learning."

Challenge deadline

BUDDING Jamie Olivers have until Friday to enter the 2011 Student Team Chef Challenge.

Organised by Ashford-based food supplier Brakes Group, the national event challenges teams of catering students to produce a three-course meal for four at no more than £12 per head. The triumphant team will win a five-day work experience placement with the executive chef of London's Marriott Hotel, Christopher Basten. Visit www.brake.co.uk for more information.

Campus now open

THE rebuilt £32 million Gravesend campus of North West Kent College has been officially opened.

Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter cut the ribbon at last week's ceremony, which was attended by governors teachers, politicians and invited guests.

Gravesend council leader Cllr Mike Snelling said: "The redevelopment project is one of the most significant investments for the future of the borough, providing state-of-the-art equipment for young people, as well as offering leading maritime operation and logistics courses in the county."

Paramedics get on course

A NEW degree course for paramedics has been launched at Canterbury Christ Church University.

The three-year programme – set up in partnership with South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SECAmb) – will be one of just three in the whole of the South East, with 15 students expected to start in April, next year.

On completion of the course, graduates will be eligible to apply for registration with the Health Professionals Council as a paramedic.

SECAmb senior learning and development manager Nick Sinclair said: "An ambulance paramedic will attend a multitude of patients.

"We could be called out to a road traffic collision with a serious trauma patient, or an elderly patient who has had a fall in their own home. Historically we would have treated the

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

patient and then transported them to the nearest accident and emergency hospital.

"However, because of the changes in ambulance services nationally, we are now moving to highly-qualified paramedics responding to calls in appropriate transport, which could be a motorbike, response car or ambulance.

"They would treat the patient, assess their needs and then refer them to the most relevant service, whether this is their GP, a falls team or mental health in the community team – whichever is appropriate."

The new degree course will be run from the university's Medway campus, which has strong working partnerships with a range of

public, private and voluntary sector organisations. These include local councils, NHS acute trusts, primary care trusts, social services and schools. Principal lecturer Dr Alison Eyden said: "This is an exciting development for the faculty of health and social care, and for the Medway campus.

"The inclusion of paramedics into the inter-professional learning programme will add a new dimension and an interesting perspective to the curriculum. We've enjoyed working with colleagues from SECAmb and look forward to welcoming the student paramedics in April."

Mr Sinclair added: "The partnership between Christ Church and SECAmb has provided an inter-professional programme that will develop a well-rounded clinician equipped to deal with the future needs of the ambulance service and its patients."



CASUAL: Clothes by Stacey Thomas

Designs on creative career

CLOTHES designed by secondary school pupils have gone on display at an exhibition hosted by the University for the Creative Arts.

The youngsters took part in an outreach project targeted at those from disadvantaged backgrounds who might not have considered going to university.

Their work went on display at the Zandra Rhodes Gallery in Rochester on Thursday and can be viewed until November 4.

Co-ordinator Inga Patching said: "The five-day courses aim to raise aspirations of young people in Medway; to let them know they could have a future within the creative industries and that higher education could help make their dream a reality.

"The week equips students with practical and theoretical skills that are crucial for the real world, such as fashion design, pattern cutting, sewing, and even marketing.

"Students on our fashion promotion course along with photography degree graduates help produce a high-quality portfolio for them to make sure they stand out from the crowd in the highly-competitive world of fashion."

The next Creative Careers in Fashion courses will take place during the Easter and summer holidays of 2011.

Telephone 01634 888693 for more details or email ipatching@ucreative.ac.uk.



DESIGN: By Alicia Whyte

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Due to staff retirement, we are looking to recruit a qualified PCV/HGV Skilled Electrician to work between our Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells depots, reporting directly to the Engineering Manager. The primary responsibility of the role is the maintenance of a varied fleet, comprising 131 vehicles including double decks, single decks and midi-buses. The ideal candidate will possess excellent diagnostic skills and be a good communicator, as an emphasis on team working will be paramount. A solid understanding of Department for Transport/VOSA maintenance standards will also be essential. Applicants will occasionally be required to work unsupervised in maintaining our vehicles to the highest standard of safety and quality. A company van will be provided for business use between the two sites. A competitive salary is on offer along with all the other benefits of working for Europe's largest transport company.

Personal qualities should include:

- Flexible approach to hours of work, based on 38 hours per week, working three 8 hour days and two 7 hour days per week
- Self-motivated
- Good communications skills, verbal and written
- Team-worker
- Awareness and adherence to all health and safety matters
- Car licence essential, PCV licence holders preferred, although training will be provided for Non-PCV licence holders

To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter to: Mr David Gadsby, Engineering Manager, Arriva Southern Counties Limited, Invicta House, Armstrong Road, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6TX or email: gadsbyd.sc@arriva.co.uk

Arriva is committed to diversity. If you're good you're welcome.

arrivabus.co.uk





The future of local media

Would you like to be a part of an exciting and growing team developing our portfolio across Kent's towns and districts?

Are you Sport mad?

Commercial Sales Manager (Sports Products)

Playing the key role in selling advertising and sponsorship across our new sports products is something that an all-round sports enthusiast would revel in. Candidates will possess a proven track record in media sales, combining excellent communication and presentation skills, a great business acumen, tenacity, and the ability to build positive business relationships. Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured sales person with a structured sales technique, a positive manner and passion for all things sport.

Have you got innovative ideas?

Media Sales Executives

We have an opportunity for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market-leading portfolio of newspapers and magazines.

We're not looking for people to just take orders; we're looking for people who can provide first class solutions for our customers. We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruit people who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers.

Full-time Creative Personal Assistant Reporting to the managing director and editorial director

The successful applicant will need to demonstrate they have the ability to not only produce excellent reports and run senior directors' diaries, but also have writing skills that would not be out of place in our newsroom. You will be producing monthly management reports and minutes of board meetings as well as preparing copy for marketing, and on occasions supplying well written PR for our websites, newspapers and magazines as well as the wider world of media. This position also demands absolute discretion as the business develops in the coming years. The successful applicant must also have the ability to work to tight deadlines and be flexible when work demands dictate. Some knowledge of media, marketing or PR would be advantageous.

Reporters

We are looking for NCTJ-trained reporters to join our busy newsroom. Candidates must be genuine all-rounders who are able to write across the various sections of our newspapers and websites, from news to features and leisure. You will be a self-starter bursting with ideas who is able to adapt their writing style to meet the needs of a variety of publications.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

Please apply with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:

sandra.waghorn@kosmedia.co.uk
or in writing to Sandra Waghorn,
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA,
Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth,
Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS

About us

KOS Media publishes the UK award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and a series of free weekly newspapers, magazines and associated websites and mobile products.

The company produces kentnews.co.uk and yourkentTV, an internet-based TV service providing regional and local news, business and sport, plus websites for jobs, property and motors.

KOS Media's newspapers have won more than 10 national awards, including UK Regional Newspaper of the Year, and UK Free Weekly Newspaper of the Year six times.

In June, 2010, media group Archant purchased KOS Media.

Archant is the UK's largest independently owned regional media business

It is a community media company active in the fields of regional newspaper and magazine publishing, contract printing and internet communications. All its titles serve clearly defined communities, based around locations or interest groups.

Archant can trace its roots back more than 160 years and today remains one of the country's largest independent media businesses. As a private company it employs 1,850 people right across England. It has an annual turnover of £142 million.

The newspaper division, Archant Regional, produces four daily regional newspapers and around 60 weekly titles with a combined circulation of 2.25 million copies every week. It is a UK top six regional newspaper publisher. It also publishes many of the group's 180 websites and a number of its magazines.

Archant also owns three magazine companies, which between them produce around 80 magazines.



Award Winning Company

KOS Media is a division **ARCHANT** REGIONAL

**St Martins Residential Home
Whitstable**

Required to join our team

SENIOR NIGHT CARE ASSISTANT

Hours to be arranged. NVQ 2 required.

Please contact Joanne or Jacqui for an application form, or for further details on 01227 261340

**Assistant Manager
Required For Residential Care Home
in Folkestone**

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person.
Must have minimum NVQ Level 3 qualification, and experience in caring for the elderly is essential.

Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 for further details or email CV to cumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk
Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

**Day and Night Care staff
Required For Residential Care Home
in Folkestone**

We are looking to recruit staff with relevant experience and a minimum of NVQ level 2. Experience caring for the elderly is essential.

Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 for further details or email CV to cumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk
Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

**Fantastic Opportunities to
further your Hairdressing Career
through Teaching Apprentices!**

The Academy currently has full and part-time vacancies across the sites in Maidstone, Folkestone and Ramsgate for:
QUALIFIED ASSESSORS
with A Units/Diploma in Teaching desirable but not essential as training will be arranged. Starting Salary: £18,200 (NQTs) - £19,500 (QTS) Pro-Rata.

CVs to nikki.buss@keithgraham.net or post to Keith Graham Academy Head Office, Unit 12 Heron Business Centre, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent. TN24 8DH - 01233 664171
Successful applicants will be subject to an Enhanced CRB Check. KGA Promotes Equality and Diversity.



Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk**KOSMEDIA**

Telephone: 01303 817040

Fax: 01303 817004

Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.ukOnline: www.jobsforkent.co.uk**Early Years Visual Impairment
Play Specialist**

Starting salary £18,472, with progression through
Total Contribution Related Pay to £20,262 per annum

Part-time

Delivering services in the West Kent Districts (Dartford, Gravesend, Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells)

To apply visit www.kent.gov.uk, email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk, or telephone 08458 247 904 or minicom 08458 247 905 (charged at local rate).

Please quote reference: CFE/010/0557

Closing date: Midday, 1 November 2010.

www.kent.gov.uk/jobs**Teachers Needed
Primary, Secondary and SEN.**

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✓ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
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- ✓ An out-of-hours service

Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information
and to register with us, please call us free on:

0800 731 6871

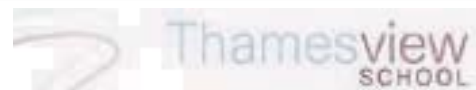
or email

enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk**CAPITA**

EDUCATION RESOURCING

(Apt)

Committed to equal opportunities



with Business and Enterprise status

Headteacher:

Rhiannon Hughes NB.Ed. Hons

WELFARE ASSISTANT

33.33 hours per week for 39 weeks per year

Kent Salary Scheme 3: Pts 7-11 - £14,099.00 - £15,984.00 per annum

Pro rata to £10,716.71 - £12,149.50 pa plus SEN Allowance of £1,169 pa

If you are, or have recently been, working with physically disabled students this post may be for you. The post holder is required to support our PD students with their learning and welfare needs in order to maximise their levels of achievement and independence. You will be required to undertake moving and handling training. Experience is essential.

Further details and application forms may be obtained from our HR Manager by email at k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk or by telephoning 01474 566552 ext 8081120.

Closing date: 1st November 2010

Interviews: 8th November 2010

CVs without an application form will not be accepted.

Appointments to this post is subject to a criminal background check via the disclosure procedure.

Thamesview School operates a non-smoking policy

Thong Lane, Gravesend, Kent DA12 4LF

T: 01474 566552 F: 01474 537405

e: school@thamesview.kent.sch.uk www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk**JobsforKent.co.uk**

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Kent is...

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Recruiting Graduates to train as Social Workers
£12,000 per annum

For details and the application process please visit: www.kent.gov.uk
email: recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk telephone: 08458 247 904
or minicom 08458 247 905 (charged at local rate).

Closing date: Midday, 29th October 2010.

**Turner Contemporary**

Schools Officer circa £25k
Full time, fixed term contract,
ends March 2012

Designed by David Chipperfield Architects, Turner Contemporary is an exciting new art gallery opening in Margate in spring 2011.

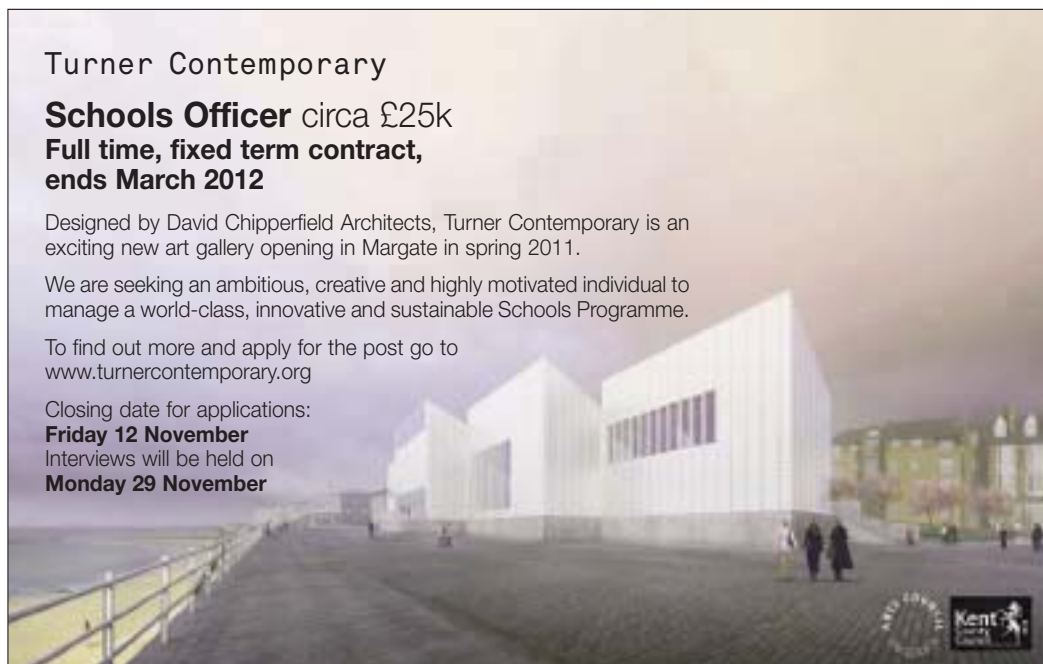
We are seeking an ambitious, creative and highly motivated individual to manage a world-class, innovative and sustainable Schools Programme.

To find out more and apply for the post go to
www.turnercontemporary.org

Closing date for applications:

Friday 12 November

Interviews will be held on

Monday 29 NovemberTo advertise in this section please telephone **01303 817040**

**REGISTERED NURSES
TUNBRIDGE WELLS****Excellent rates of pay plus benefits and possible accommodation**

Our client is a 40-bed independent hospital set in beautiful countryside on the Kent/Sussex borders. They have excellent opportunities for nurses wishing to be part of a caring and committed multi-disciplinary team offering whole person care.

For full details please call Neil or Sally on: 01227 780888 or email your CV to: medical@careerline.co.uk
Ref: MH 2721



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INDEPENDENT COLLEGE

Part-time early morning cleaner

to work in a busy, friendly school. Immediate start subject to checks.

Please email for application form recruitment@rochester-college.org

Previous applicants need not apply
Closing date 5th November 2010.

www.rochester-college.org
STAR HILL ROCHESTER KENT ME1 1XF

**RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY**

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

■ **Programme Leader – Catering and Hospitality**

Salary scale: £29,413 - £34,817 for 37 hours per week all year

■ **Chef Lecturer in Catering and Hospitality**

Salary scale: £25,589 - £30,205 for 37 hours per week all year

■ **Programme Leader – Hair**

Salary scale: £29,413 - £34,817 for 37 hours per week all year

■ **Programme Leader – Trowel Trades**

Salary scale: £29,413 - £34,817 for 37 hours per week all year

■ **Lecturer in Plastering**

Salary scale: £25,589 - £30,205 for 37 hours per week all year

■ **Trainer Assessor – Health and Social Care**

Salary scale: £9,500 - £11,500 for 18.5 hours per week all year
plus achievement incentives based on income and performance

■ **Business Services Administrator (maternity cover)**
Fixed term until the end of April 2011

Salary scale: £14,854 - £15,980 for 37 hours per week all year

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Closing date: **Friday 5 November 2010**

Promoting Equality Preventing Discrimination

**RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE OFFICERS
FULL TIME**

**37 HOURS PER WEEK INCLUDING WEEKEND AND SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKING. FIXED TERM CONTRACT
SALARY SCALE KS3 POINTS 7 – 11 DEPENDING ON EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS. £14,957 - £16,440
INCLUDES WEEKEND ALLOWANCE.**

Carers required to work at this special school for children aged 11-19 with autism and associated learning difficulties. Previous experience within a school or care setting is desirable. NVQ Level 3 qualification is desirable, but not essential.
The hours will be on a split-shift system i.e. 7.30 am – 9.15 am and 3.30 pm – 10.30 pm on the same day. There are two weekend shifts 7.30am – 3.15 pm. and 2.45 pm – 10.30 pm but these times will vary during holiday periods.

Stone Bay School is committed to the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children and employees are required to have an enhanced CRB disclosure.

KCC final-salary pension scheme membership available.
Please phone 01843 863421, e-mail office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk, or write to Stone Bay School, 70 Stone Road, Broadstairs, CT10 1EB for an application form.
Closing date for applications is Friday 5th November 2010.
Kent County Council is an equal opportunities employer.

**SECOND DEPUTY HEAD OF CARE
FULL TIME**

**SALARY £27,202 PLUS £1,621 WEEKEND ALLOWANCE
SCALE KS9 POINT 29. PERMANENT 52 WEEK POST
INCLUDING ALTERNATE WEEKEND WORKING**

A second Deputy Head of Care required to work at this special school for children aged 11-19 with autism and associated learning difficulties, reporting to the Senior Care Team. Previous employment within a school or social care setting is essential, with relevant leadership/management experience. NVQ Level 4 qualification is desirable, but not essential as training will be provided.

A proportion of the working week is to be spent in direct care work/pupil support to an average of 75%. The post holder must be skilled in working with children and young people who present complex challenging behaviour. The successful applicant will have a track record of proactive approaches to behaviour management and will be required to manage the schools extended year provision, which will involve working outside of term time. Some holiday entitlement can be taken during term time by arrangement with Headteacher or Head of Care.

Stone Bay School is committed to the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children and employees are required to have an enhanced CRB disclosure. KCC final-salary pension scheme membership available.

Please phone 01843 863421, e-mail office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk, or write to Stone Bay School, 70 Stone Road, Broadstairs, CT10 1EB for an application form.

Closing date for applications is Friday 12th November 2010.
Kent County Council is an equal opportunities employer.

**JobsforKent.co.uk****A selection of the 100s
of Local Jobs online****Accountancy****Revenue Assistant****West Malling**

Salary £18,000

To apply/more information:

Interpersonnel

applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Quoting Job Ref: 1706

Taxation Trainee**Canterbury**

Salary TBC

To apply/more information:

Burgess Hodgson Chartered Accountants

applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Quoting Job Ref: kos

**Administration,
Secretarial, PA****HEAD RECEPTIONIST****Canterbury**

Salary Negotiable

Exciting Opportunity to join

Broome Park Country Club's

dynamic Reception Team

Diamond Resorts International; is seeking a Head Receptionist - Temporary for six months/40 hours per week. We are seeking a customer focused and flexible individual to manage the smooth running of our reception area and small team. Key responsibilities include; customer care, cash handling, telephony, communication with other departments and general administration. Customer service skills, computer literacy, a pleasant manner and hands on approach are essential for this role. This is a full time position working five days per week on a rota basis to include evenings and some weekends. Previous experience in a similar role or supervisory position is preferred. For more details or to apply please email Clare.croose@diamondresorts.co.uk or contact Clare Croose on 01227 831 701. We are an equal opportunity employer
To apply/more information:
Diamond Resorts
Clare.croose@diamondresorts.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Co-Ordinator**Borough Green**

Salary £16,500 + excellent benefits

To apply/more information:

Interpersonnel

jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk

Quoting Job Ref: 1704

**Installation
Administrator****Ashford**

Salary Negotiable

Sunray Engineering Ltd -

Manufactures and installers of

steel doors, fire doors, security

doors, industrial doors and

louvre systems. We are looking

for an experienced, self

motivated person to ensure the

smooth organisation of our site

installations, this person needs

to be a strong, confident and

well organised individual.

Previous Field Service

Administration experience is a

pre requisite. Some of the Main

Duties Include: Organising,

within the company to ensure this plan is achieved. Liaison with Site Contacts to ensure delivery of customers orders for site installation. Produce and supply all relevant supporting documentation to site including O & M manuals, method statements, Health & safety, risk assessments and site data packs. Constant liaison with site to ensure installation can take place when required and re-organisation of installation and production program as required. To produce the actual job costing's and provide regular feedback as to performance against budgets. Any further administration duties required for other areas of the business. Email your CV to damian.kerry@sunraydoors.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Sunray Engineering Ltd
damian.kerry@sunraydoors.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Project Officer**Folkestone**

Salary £18k per year

To apply/more information:

Folkestone Harbour (GP) Ltd

Gabrielle.Wilson@strandhouse.org

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Practice Administrator**Medway**

Salary £7.80 per hour

To apply/more information:

DMC Healthcare

medwayhc@nhs.net

Quoting Job Ref: kos

**Full-time creative
Personal Assistant****Ashford**

Salary Negotiable

To apply/more information:

KOS Media

applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Quoting Job Ref: kos

**Transport Planning
Assistant****Sittingbourne**

Salary Negotiable

Transport Planning Assistant

Tasks to include tachograph

administration, placing orders,

driver liaison, PODs. Applicant

must have experience and be computer literate. Shift system in operation. Please send covering letters and CV's to Box 127, Applebarn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS or email: lucy.williams@kosmedia.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Transport Company
clientmail@nicholls-uk.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

**Receptionist /
Customer Service****Canterbury**

Salary 14k

Working hours are: 31 hours per

week Mon and Thurs 6.30am to

12.30pm then 2pm-6.30pm

Tues 1.30pm to 6.30pm Wed

2pm to 7pm. Can you ... provide

excellent service "Walt Disney

style"? Are you: • Hard working

and motivated • Enthusiastic

and committed • Organised

and efficient • Work well solo as

well as be part of a team •

Thrive on self improvement and

success? Then we have the job

for you!! We require minimum

C and above (must include English and Mathematics), basic computer skills are preferable and some experience in a similar post although full training will be given. If you think you have what we are looking for and consider yourself to be confident and outgoing, please apply in writing with your CV to: Dr Tracy Harley, The Wellness Practice Ltd, 30 Whitstable Road, Blean nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 9EB
To apply/more information:
Canterbury Health Practice
monique@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: Rec Aug10

**Departmental
Administrator****Maidstone**

Salary £15,453 - £17,663 per annum

Departmental Administrator Ref:

M0171Salary: £15,453 - £17,663

per annum. Fixed Term Maternity

Cover. Maidstone We are looking

to recruit an Administrator/

Secretary with excellent

administration and organisational

skills to join our successful Public and Retail Services Faculty. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate knowledge of office procedures and ability to use MS Office packages. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: M0171

ADMIN ASSISTANT**Mereworth**

Salary Negotiable

To apply/more information:

Avenue Building Company Ltd

smiller@avenuebuilding.co.uk

Quoting Job Ref: kos

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Child Care

RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE OFFICERS

Broadstairs
Salary £14,957 - £16,440
To apply/more information:
Stone Bay School
office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Foster Carers

Kent
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
ISP Childcare
fostering.team@ispchildcare.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Customer Service, Call Centre

Sales Co-Ordinator

Borough Green
Salary £16,500 + excellent benefits
To apply/more information:
Interpersonnel
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 1704

Domestic

Cleaners

Crayford
Salary £6.25 per hour
To apply/more information:
3 Way Cleaning
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

DOMESTIC ASSISTANT

Faversham
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Carnalea Residential Home
eldercare@carnalea.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Education, Teacher, School

RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE OFFICERS

Broadstairs
Salary £14,957 - £16,440
To apply/more information:
Stone Bay School
office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

SECOND DEPUTY HEAD OF CARE

Broadstairs
Salary £27,202
To apply/more information:
Stone Bay School
office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Area Electrical Technician

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells
Salary circa. £25,000
To apply/more information:
Arriva Southern Counties
philippa.sc@arriva.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Health & Beauty

Experienced Stylist & Enthusiastic Junior

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Taylor Martin Hair at Mersham le Hatchare looking for an Experienced Stylist with 3 years experience and an Enthusiastic Junior, possibly a school leaver to join our friendly, busy salon. Please ring 01233 502719.

To apply/more information:
Taylor Martin Hair
taylormartinhair@btconnect.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

IT Service Engineer

Ramsgate and Client Sites
Salary £18K - £22K

We are currently seeking a highly skilled service engineer with the drive and determination to help us support our client base. This position reports to our Service Manager. We are looking for an individual who is a problem-solver and has a proven track record of working within a team environment to successfully address challenging user computing issues and is accustomed to utilising technical training opportunities to improve their skills. If you have the experience and the desire, we'd like to talk to you. Our service engineers are responsible for maintaining user uptime and improving their computing experiences through effective remote monitoring, maintenance and problem identification and resolution activities, as well as growing and developing the organisation's perception with existing customers through exceptional customer service. Candidates must be energetic and focused with a strong motivation to learn new technologies and management and maintenance processes. This position requires dedication, persistence, follow-up, effective utilisation of provided resources and unbeatable customer service. This position will include identifying user problems and working within a structured problem management and resolution process to remediate them within established SLAs, and involves working with other resources and vendors to deliver effective support services. Responsibilities include identifying, documenting and troubleshooting user computing issues to resolution and maintaining customer satisfaction. Job duties include utilising our remote monitoring and management (RMM) and professional services automation (PSA) solutions along with other service-specific tools and technologies to deliver remote user support services and update service request information, answer technical support calls, assign ticket severity, prioritise work accordingly, and collaborate and work with other staff and vendor support resources to resolve issues. Overall relationship management and the ability to coordinate required resources to respond to complex IT requirements are desired. Other requirements include participating in on-going training and attainment of manufacturer certifications, developing and maintaining relationships with user and vendor contacts, and preparing and presenting service and monitoring reports to management when required. Minimum Skills Required: &mdot; Relevant service engineering experience &mdot; Microsoft Certified Professional status &mdot; Excellent knowledge of our supported software and technologies &mdot; Strong interpersonal skills required to effectively communicate with users and vendors &mdot; Passion for teamwork, continuing education, problem solving and exceptional customer service &mdot; Must be well spoken, outgoing, organised, detailed-orientated, dependable and flexible &mdot; Detailed experience with HP, SonicWALL, and Cisco solutions advantageous &mdot; Valid current driver's license This Position Entails: &mdot; Troubleshooting user problems over the phone and with remote

control technologies &mdot; Accurate documentation of all activities conducted &mdot; Field based support and installation work &mdot; Participating in the weekly "on call" rota for out-of-hours support &mdot; The ability to manage, maintain, troubleshoot and support our users' networks, equipment, software and services &mdot; The ability to learn quickly and adapt to changing requirements The Successful Candidate must be: &mdot; Professional and articulate &mdot; Interpersonally adept &mdot; Technically proficient &mdot; A relationship builder &mdot; A problem solver In addition to the salary for this post there are non-contractual bonuses to be earned for meeting utilisation, compliance and customer service requirements. Qualified candidates please download the application form at www.bcs-online.co.uk/application.pdf - If you have any questions regarding this position, please contact Gareth Johns on 01843 572604 or email gareth.johns@bcs-online.co.uk

To apply/more information:
Business Computer Solutions
gareth.johns@bcs-online.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

Project Officer

Folkestone
Salary £18k per year
Project Officer Full-time, fixed term 12 months, £18k per year. Folkestone, Kent Are you a good communicator? Do you relish a challenge, enjoy finding creative solutions, and thrive in a small team? We are looking for a Project Officer, to join our team as we work on the exciting Folkestone Seafrost development project. This is a varied role which focuses on personal and online public consultation, communications and project support. For further details of the post and how to apply, please see: www.folkestoneharbour.com/developments/ or call 01303 212048. Closing date: 17:00, 8th November 2010
www.folkestoneseafrost.com/developments/
To apply/more information:
Folkestone Harbour (GP) Ltd
Gabrielle.Wilson@strandhouse.org
Quoting Job Ref: kos

RECEPTION MANAGER

Dover
Salary Negotiable depending upon experience
To apply/more information:
Ramada Hotel Dover
gm@ramadadover.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: TB/0610/dm

Qualified Assessors

Maidstone
Salary £18,200 (NQTs) - £19,500 (QTS) Pro-Rata.
To apply/more information:
Keith Graham Academy
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Qualified Assessors

Ramsgate
Salary £18,200 (NQTs) - £19,500 (QTS) Pro-Rata.
To apply/more information:
Keith Graham Academy
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

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To apply/more information:
Saga
human.resources@saga.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: SH447/KOS

SENIOR CARE ASSISTANT

Faversham
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Carnalea Residential Home
eldercare@carnalea.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

SECOND DEPUTY HEAD OF CARE

Broadstairs
Salary £27,202
To apply/more information:
Stone Bay School
office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Marketing, Advertising

Field Sales Roles

Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
Love Speaking to People But Tired of Call Centres? Our Client has been voted THE top telecommunications provider in the UK. Due to the success of our ongoing campaigns and the results we produce we are experiencing a heightened level of consumer demand, resulting in the expansion of our field sales department. Forget behind-the-scenes, this is a high-impact, high visibility opportunity where every day will be a different challenge - and it will be down to you to inspire, motivate and deliver every time. You will be motivated, confident and outgoing with good interpersonal skills. You will think like a leader with a positive attitude and be prepared to develop and grow. This opportunity covers various aspects of the marketing and field sales industry &mdot; Engaging with clients and customers, representing the brand at all times &mdot; Generating brand awareness and understanding &mdot; Producing accurate and appropriate written correspondence &mdot; Analysing campaigns effectiveness &mdot; Driving clients brand through sales and excellent customer service Working at J-K Marketing Services will provide you access to industry related events and seminars and ongoing development. If you believe you can rise to the challenge and you share our passion for excellence in all areas of field sales we would love to hear from you. Please send a cover letter with your CV to admin@jkmarketingservices.com for immediate consideration or alternatively call 01622 691 730 for an immediate appointment. All applicants must be 18+ years of age and available for full time hours.
To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Qualified Assessors

Maidstone
Salary £18,200 (NQTs) - £19,500 (QTS) Pro-Rata.
To apply/more information:
Keith Graham Academy
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Brand Manager

West Kent
Salary £neg
To apply/more information:
Interpersonnel
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 1705

MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES, SAGA HOLIDAYS

Folkestone
Salary £16,874 - £22,280
To apply/more information:
Saga
human.resources@saga.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: SH447/KOS

Sales Executive

Gravesend
Salary £16,000 basin

To apply/more information:
AJP Publishing
alex@carehomenet.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Commercial Sales Manager (Sports Product)

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
KOS Media
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Marketing, Sales and Communication

Canterbury
Salary 14k (starting salary)
To apply/more information:
Canterbury Health Practice
monique@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 2010-02

Not for profit, Charities

Bereavement Service Programme Manager

Medway
Salary equivalent to NHS Band 6
Bereavement Service Programme Manager Part time, Medway based Holding On, Letting Go is a local charity providing a grief support service for children, young people and their families in Kent. We are seeking a part time Programme Manager to lead the bereavement service. Applications are invited from people working in health, social care or the voluntary sector who have a qualification in counselling, psychotherapy or family therapy. Key requirements of the post include: • Extensive experience of working therapeutically with children, adults and families who have experienced loss and bereavement • Excellent communication skills • Willingness to work flexibly including evenings and weekends • Car driver This post is currently based in Medway, 2 days/week for 3 years fixed term
Salary equivalent to NHS Band 6 For an further details please contact Ann Hanson (Trustee) on 01634 830456 ann.hanson@nhs.net and visit our web site at www.holdingonlettinggo.org.uk or a job description and application form please contact Vanessa Savidge on V.Savidge@nhs.net Closing date October 25th Charity no: 1103835
To apply/more information:
Holding on Letting go
V.Savidge@nhs.net
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Full-time creative Personal Assistant

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
KOS Media
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Field Sales Roles

Maidstone
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Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

SENIOR CARE ASSISTANT

Faversham
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Regal Care Homes
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

LEAD DISPENSER

Lenham
Salary Negotiable
LEAD DISPENSER REQUIRED We require a full-time (37 hrs), qualified dispenser (at least NVQ2), with management experience or potential. We are a busy, friendly medical centre in Lenham with an excellent team of GPs and staff. If you already lead a team or consider that you could be a good manager, then please give us a call. You must have a flexibility to work between 8.30am - 6.30pm and be motivated and hard-working. Salary dependent upon experience. Management

training provided. Enquiries to Sandra Paterson, Dispensary Manager, sandra.paterson@nhs.net; 01622 852901. Closing date: Monday 25th October 2010
To apply/more information:
Len Valley Practice
diane.anderson@nhs.net
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Registered Nurse

Barham, Canterbury
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
Barham House
barhamhouse@hotmail.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Registered Nurses

Tunbridge Wells
Salary BC
To apply/more information:
Careerline Ltd
neil@careerline.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Registered Nurses

Tunbridge Wells
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
Careerline Limited
tim@careerline.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Public Relations, Media, Journalism

Commercial Sales Manager (Sports Product)

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
KOS Media
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Full-time creative Personal Assistant

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
KOS Media
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Field Sales Roles

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Salary Negotiable
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in all areas of field sales we would love to hear from you. Please send a cover letter with your CV to admin@jkmarketingservices.com for immediate consideration or alternatively call 01622 691 730 for an immediate appointment. All applicants must be 18+ years of age and available for full time hours.
To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Co-Ordinator

Borough Green
Salary £16,500 + excellent benefits
To apply/more information:
Interpersonnel
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 1704

MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES, SAGA HOLIDAYS

Folkestone
Salary £16,874 - £22,280
To apply/more information:
Saga
human.resources@saga.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: SH447/KOS

Sales Executive

Gravesend
Salary £16,000 basin
To apply/more information:
AJP Publishing
alex@carehomenet.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Media Sales Executives

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
KOS Media
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

100s

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01303 817040

Transport, Logistics, Aviation

Transport Planning Assistant

Sittingbourne
Salary Negotiable
Transport Planning Assistant
Tasks to include tachograph administration, placing orders, driver liaison, PODs. Applicant must have experience and be computer literate. Shift system in operation. Please send covering letters and CV's to Box 127, Applebarn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS or email: lucy.williams@kosmedia.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Transport Company
clientmail@nicholls-uk.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Area Electrical Technician

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells
Salary circa. £25,000
To apply/more information:
Arriva Southern Counties
philippa.sc@arriva.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

LGV C (HGV2) ADR Drivers

North Kent
Salary TBC

ADR drivers required for various temporary assignments for our Kent based clients. Work includes General Haulage, Clinical Waste and Gas Delivery. Drivers must have a current ADR certificate, preferably for Packages. Other assignments available for flexible drivers. Please contact Alex on 01622 664999.

To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS/AH/04

LGV C+E (HGV1) Drivers

Mid Kent
Salary £8.50+ per hour
LGV C+E (HGV1) Drivers required for various driving assignments for our Kent based clients. Work available includes Supermarkets / Store Deliveries, General Haulage, Night Trunking plus more. Varying shifts - Weekdays, Weekends, Earlys, Lates, Nights. £8.50+ per hour. Enhanced rates for Limited Company Drivers. Insurance restrictions differ between clients. In general, applicants must be over 25, and have more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs). Applicants must also be able to provide references for previous commercial driving experience. The Best Connection Employment Group, Cornwallis House, Pudding Lane, Maidstone, ME14 1NY. Telephone: 01622 664999.

To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS/AH/02

LGV C (HGV2) Drivers

North Kent
Salary £7.50 - £11.25 per hour
We are looking for LGV C (HGV2) Drivers to work for our Kent based client on a temporary / on going basis. You will be delivering clean laundry and collecting of used laundry from hotels. Up to 20 drops per day. Drops can include both caged deliveries as well as handball. On some routes you may be accompanied by a Porter. Start times between 0400 - 1500, over Monday to Saturday. Due to insurance, applicants must be over 25, and have more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs). Applicants must also be able to provide references for previous commercial driving experience. The Best Connection Employment Group, Cornwallis House, Pudding Lane, Maidstone, ME14 1NY. Telephone: 01622 664999
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS/AH/03

Multidrop Van Drivers

Kent
Salary TBC
We are looking for experienced Multidrop Van Drivers to assist our clients with the increase in work up to Christmas. We have clients based all over Kent including Maidstone, Aylesford, Larkfield, Ashford and Canterbury. You will be expected to carry out 50+ drops per day, therefore applicants will need previous experience of similar drop numbers. Areas to be delivered to will include the ME, CT, DA, and TN postcodes. Due to insurance restrictions, drivers must be 25 and have no more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs). Other assignments available for flexible drivers. The Best Connection Employment Group, Cornwallis House, Pudding Lane, Maidstone, ME14 1NY. Telephone: 01622 664999
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS/AH/06

HIGHWAYS – District of Ashford

CANTERBURY ROAD, BRABOURNE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Canterbury Road, Brabourne, on or after 27 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Manor Pound Lane and The Street.

The alternative route is via Manor Pound Lane, Weekes Lane, Pilgrims Way and Stock Lane.

PLUCKLEY ROAD, SMARDEN - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of bridge reconstruction works, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pluckley Road, Smarden, on or after 13 November 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at Baker's Bridge. There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Lewd Lane and Dorking Lane.

The alternative route is via The Street, Water Lane, Bell Lane, The Pinnock, Rose Farm Lane, Smarden Road and Pluckley Road.

HIGHWAYS – District of Canterbury

WESTBERE LANE, WESTBERE, CANTERBURY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of BT ducting works so that overhead wires can be removed, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Westbere Lane, Westbere, Canterbury, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside Ye Olde Yew Tree Inn.

The alternative route is via Westbere Lane, A28 Island Road and Bushy Hill Road.

It is planned the works will be carried out between the hours of 9.30 am and 4.00 pm with the road re-opened outside these hours.

ST RADIGUND'S STREET, CANTERBURY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of works to modify and improve kerbs, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on St Radigund's Street, Canterbury, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Borough/ Northgate for a distance of approximately 30 metres.

The alternative route is via Northgate, Kingsmead Road, St Stephen's Road, The Causeway, Pound Lane and St Radigund's Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of St Radigund's Street will be suspended between the junction with Knott's Lane and the point of closure to allow access, when the relevant signs are covered.

GUILDFORD ROAD & YORK ROAD, CANTERBURY- (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Guildford Road & York Road, Canterbury, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Guildford Road will be closed between the junctions with Martyr's Field Road and Oxford Road.

The alternative route is via Zealand Road, Heaton Road and Martyr's Field Road.

York Road will be closed between the junctions with Clarendon Place and Martyr's Field Road.

The alternative route is via Martyr's Field Road, St Mildred's Place, Victoria Road, Wincheap, Tudor Road and Clarendon Place.

Martyr's Field Road itself will remain open, with temporary traffic lights at the junction with Guildford Road/York Road.

DEANSWAY AVENUE AND PARK VIEW, STURRY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Deansway Avenue and Park View, Sturry, Canterbury, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Deansway Avenue will be closed between the junctions with Herne Bay Road and Park View.

The alternative route is via Herne Bay Road, Popes Lane and Deansway Avenue.

Park View will be closed at the junction with Deansway Avenue. The diversion is via McCarthy Avenue, River View, Hillbrow Avenue, Popes Lane and Herne Bay Road.

Please note that the start date has been amended since the first advert was published.

HIGHWAYS – District of Dover

MELBOURNE AVENUE, DOVER - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Melbourne Avenue, Dover, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junction with Aspen Drive and Green Lane. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Honeywood Parkway and Green Lane.

The alternative routes for through traffic are:

Southbound via Honeywood Road, A256 Whitfield Hill, London Road, Crabble Hill, Whitfield Avenue and Green Lane

Northbound via Brookfield Avenue, Old Park Road, A256 London Road, Crabble Hill, London Road, Whitfield Hill and Honeywood Road.

The closures will be done in phases as signposted. Local access for Melbourne Avenue and the roads leading off it will be maintained whenever it is safe to do so, with the direction of approach advised by the traffic management crew on site.

It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 am and 7.00 pm with the road re-opened outside these hours.

NEW STREET, SANDWICH - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on New Street, Sandwich, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with St Bart's Road and No Name Street.

The alternative route is via St Bart's Road, Woodnesborough Road, Moat Sole and No Name Street.

The works will be carried out in phases to allow access to and from St George's Road and Galliard Street. Traffic will be directed to join the alternative route, with the direction of travel advised and signposted on site.

It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 am and 7.00 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

QUEEN STREET & BROAD STREET, DEAL - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Queen Street & Broad Street, Deal, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 3 nights or until the works have been completed.

The roads will be closed between the junctions with Blenheim Road and Beach Street.

The alternative routes are:

For light vehicles via Queen Street, Mill Road, Park Avenue, Gilford Road, Victoria Road, Ranelagh Road, (return via Deal Castle Road), Prince of Wales Terrace and Beach Street.

For HGVs and all vehicles over 13' 0" tall via A258 Queen Street, London Road, Manor Road, Mill Hill, St Richard's Road, Court Road, Station Road, A258 Dover Road, The Strand, Victoria Road, Ranelagh Road (return via Deal Castle Road) and Prince of Wales Terrace.

It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 pm and midnight, with the roads re-opened outside these hours.

BUNKERS HILL, DOVER - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bunkers Hill, Dover, on or after 27 October 2010 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Bunkers Hill Road and Oswald Road.

The alternative route is via via Bunkers Hill Road, St Radigund's Road and Oswald Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, SANDWICH - (10 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order imposing a temporary mandatory 10 mph speed limit on Various Roads, Sandwich, on or after 27 October 2010 for up to 4 weekday nights or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected are:

A256 Sandwich Road, Worth / A256 Sandwich Bypass, Sandwich / A258 Deal Road, Sandwich

This affects each of the above roads from the roundabout where they meet, for a distance of approximately 100 metres.

The 10 mph speed restriction applies within roadworks when the relevant signs and temporary traffic signals are on site.

The road will be closed between the junctions with No Name Street and St Peter's Street. Austins Lane will be closed at the junction with King Street.

This restriction has been introduced for the safety of the public and workforce whilst essential carriageway repairs and resurfacing are carried out on behalf of Kent Highway Services.

It is anticipated the works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 pm and 5.00 am.

VARIOUS ROADS, STAPLE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Staple, on or after 29 October 2010 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, extent of closure and alternative routes are as shown below.

Mill Road, Staple will be closed from 29 October 2010 for up to 2 weekdays

The closure is between the junctions with Buckland Lane and Barnsole Road.

Mill Lane, Staple will also be closed.

The alternative route is via Mill Road, School Lane, Lower Road and Barnsole Lane.

Chalk Pit Hill & Chalk Pit Lane, Staple will be closed on or after 2 November 2010 for up to 2 days

The closure is between the junctions with Barnsole Road and Sandwich Road.

The alternative route is via Barnsole Road, Fleming Road, Drainless Road, Hammill Road and Sandwich Road.

It is planned that these works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 am and 7.00 pm, with the roads re-opened outside these hours.

THE RISE, KINGSDOWN - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of works to install a new sewer connection, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Rise, Kingsdown, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside the property 'Northdown'. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Alexandra Road and St James' Road. The junction with Glen Road is unaffected.

The alternative route is via Chalk Hill Road and Upper Street.

KING STREET, SANDWICH - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on King Street, Sandwich, on or after 17 November 2010 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with No Name Street and St Peter's Street. Austins Lane will be closed at the junction with King Street.

The alternative route is via No Name Street, Cattle Market, Harnet Street, Strand Street, High Street and Short Street.

HIGHWAYS – District of Sevenoaks

HEVER WARREN ROAD, EDENBRIDGE - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Hever Warren Road, Edenbridge between Fell House and The Old Dairy.

The Order will become effective on 8th November 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Hartfield Road, Cowden Pound Road, Uckfield Lane and Station Road

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a new electricity supply.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

VARIOUS ROADS - (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS) AMENDMENT NO 3 ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council has made the above named Order under sections 1(1) and (2), 2(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order will have the effect of making the following roads or lengths of road one way

Folkestone:

Chart Road, from the junction with Surrenden Road to the junction with Trimworth Road – west to east

Coombe Road, from the junction with Morehall Avenue to the junction with Chart Road - south to north

Morehall Avenue, from the junction with Trimworth Road to the junction with Surrenden Road – east to west.

Trimworth Road, from the junction with Chart Road to the junction with Cheriton Road – north to south The Order was sealed on 22 October 2010 and will come into force 1 November 2010.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Fridays in the offices of Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

A259 RHEE WALL & LYDD ROAD, OLD ROMNEY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on A259 Rhee Wall & Lydd Road, Old Romney, on or after 8 November 2010 for up to 5 weekday nights or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Old Romney. There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with the A2070 and B2075 Romney Road.

The alternative route is via A259 Rhee Wall, Straight Lane, Brookland By-pass, Rye Road, Guldeford Lane, Folkestone Road, Camber Road, Lydd Road, Jury's Gap Road, Tournay Road, Robin Hood Lane, Harden Road, B2075 Romney Road and A259 Lydd Road.

It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 pm and 5.00 am each night, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

HIGHWAYS – District of Thanet

ST JAMES'S TERRACE & ST DAVID'S CLOSE, BIRCHINGTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on St James's Terrace & St David's Close, Birchington, on or after 27 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

St James's Terrace will be closed for its entire length. As a result, there will be no access to St David's Close. There is no alternative route as both roads are cul-de-sacs.

Every effort will be made to maintain access for residents whenever it is safe to do so, but there will be times when this is not possible.

It is planned the works will be carried out between the hours of 8.00 am and 5.00 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

YARDLEY PARK ROAD, TONBRIDGE - (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Yardley Park Road between A227 Shipbourne Road and The Haydens on or after Sunday 31st October 2010 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via A227 Shipbourne Road, High Street, Bordyke, A26 Hadlow Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential footway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800
(local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

A228 CASTLE WAY, LEYBOURNE - (PROHIBITION OF RIGHT TURN & CLOSURE OF LAY-BY) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting northbound traffic from turning right onto Leybourne Way from A228 Castle Way and closure of the lay-by by Blue Gem Cafe on or after Sunday 14th November 2010 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via A228 Malling Road, Ham Hill Roundabout and return via the by-pass to take the left hand turn into Leybourne Way.

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to gain access to boxes in the carriageway. Should you require any further information regarding these works, please contact Louise Skull on 08700 500792.

VARIOUS ROADS, TONBRIDGE AND MALLING - (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND ON-STREET PARKING) (AMENDMENT NO. 2) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that the Kent County Council acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2 & 4 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act, made the above Order on **20th October, 2010.**

The Order will introduce no waiting 'at any time' prohibition (double yellow lines - DYL) to prevent parking at unsuitable places and reinforce the rules of the Highway Code at the following locations: Admiral Moore Drive, Bentley Close and McKenzie Close, Royal British Legion Village, **Aylesford**; Buckmore Park Main Entrance Road off Lord Lees Roundabout (west) and the three access spur roads leading to Buckmore Park, Nil Desperandum Lorry Park and unnamed road south to Recreation Ground, Blue Bell Hill, **Aylesford**; Church Street at junction with Baker Street and opposite entrance to Golden Eagle car park, **Burham**; Bell Lane's northern junction with Fernleigh Rise, **Ditton**; Beech Road, Northern and Southern entrances to The Mallings School, **East Malling**; Swallow Road's eastern junction with Kingfisher Road, **Larkfield**; Addlestead Road junction with Snoll Hatch Road, **East Peckham**; High Street (A26) junction with private road leading to Primary School, Hadlow; Brookmead's western junction with Greenview Crescent, **Hildenborough**; Brookmead junction with Meadow, **Hildenborough**; Foxbush, at its

junction with Tonbridge Road (B245), **Hildenborough**; Lower Street, **Hildenborough**; Leigh Road junction with Stocks Green Road, **Hildenborough**; Audley Avenue, west of its junction with Pembroke Road and west of its junction with Alders Meadow, **Tonbridge**; Audley Rise south of its junction with Audley Avenue, **Tonbridge**; The Chase junction with Derwent Road and Severn Close, **Tonbridge**; Kings Road junction with Mountfield Park, **Tonbridge**; Lower Haysden Lane junction with entrance road to Haysden Country Park; **Tonbridge**; Upper Hayesden Lane and Brook Street junctions with Lower Haysden Lane and Masefield Way, **Tonbridge**; River Walk, **Tonbridge**; Royal Rise, **Tonbridge**; High Street junctions with Rectory Lane and Knowle Road, **Wouldham**.

In addition, the Order will:

- upgrade existing single yellow lines (SYL) to no waiting 'at any time' prohibition (DYL) on the south west side of Pound Road, **East Peckham**.
- introduce no waiting restriction Monday to Friday, 8.00 am to 9.00 am and 3.00 pm to 4.00pm (SYL) in Leigh Road, **Hildenborough** to improve visibility and safety outside the primary school.
- Introduce no waiting restrictions Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 4.00 pm (SYL) to discourage long stay parking and improve daytime access and amenity for residents in Royal Rise, **Tonbridge**.
- Introduce no waiting Monday to Friday, 10.30 am to 11.00 pm (SYL) to discourage long stay parking and daytime obstruction in Lower Haysden Lane, **Tonbridge**.
- Confirm the relocation of the Disabled Persons' Parking Places in The Botany, **Tonbridge**.
- Confirm the Disabled Persons' Parking Place in River Walk, **Tonbridge**.

A copy of the Order, which will come into effect on **25th October, 2010**, together with relevant maps, and a copy of the Councils reasons for making the Order, may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of Tonbridge and Malling Council, Kings Hill, West Malling or Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge and the Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone Kent.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Order or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

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Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

- 10/03219/FUL Sheerdrop Cottage Penshurst Road, Bidborough**
- Demolition of existing dwelling, garage and barn and construct a 3 bedroom cottage (LB)
- 10/03347/FUL Land To Rear Of Walters Farmhouse, Brenchley**
- Demolition of existing barn and construction of dwelling and garage (revised scheme to TW/08/04075) (CA) (LB)
- 10/03221/FUL Linden Park Cricket Club Fir Tree Road, Broadwater**
- Removal of Condition 1 of TW/10/00207 relating to the replacement of tarmacadam area with grass (CA)
- 10/03051/FUL The Corner House Stone Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Variation of condition 2 of permission TW/10/01830/FUL to allow opening hours - Monday to Friday 08.30 to 18.00 and Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays 09.30 to 17.00 (CA) (LB)
- 10/03326/HOUSE Old Mill Goudhurst Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Replacement garden store (LB)
- 10/03051/FUL 9 Boyne Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden**
- Erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings with ancillary garaging and car parking including associated landscaping (CA)
- 10/03306/HOUSE Old Jorrockes The Street, Frittenden**
- Removal of existing conservatory; single-storey rear pitched roof and flat-roofed infill extension (CA)
- 10/03157/LBC Swan Farm Swan Lane, Goudhurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Removal of small partition wall between kitchen and toilet and resiting of toilet in adjacent cloakroom area. Removal of existing (modern tile) flooring, installation of underfloor heating and traditional stone flooring. (LB)
- 10/03279/HOUSE 1 Laundry Cottages Water Lane, Hawkhurst**
- Replacement hardwood conservatory (LB)
- 10/03281/LBC 1 Laundry Cottages Water Lane, Hawkhurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Replacement hardwood conservatory (LB)
- 10/03355/HOUSE The Old Orange Tree School Hill, Lamberhurst**
- Proposed conservatory on rear of property and alteration to form double doors in modern extension (CA) (LB)
- 10/03356/LBC The Old Orange Tree School Hill, Lamberhurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Proposed conservatory on rear of property and alteration to form double doors in modern extension (LB)
- 10/03318/LBC The Old Court Yard Blackhurst Park, Park**
- Listed Building Consent: Redesign of existing planter to allow external access through redesigned windows from living room. Adaption of existing window/stable door to allow external access from bedroom. Re-planning of internal space of the north west wing. Insertion of bath and associated ventilation in bedroom in the south west wing. Replacement of existing door to study. Insertion of fence to north west boundary and cladding of existing wrought iron gate to courtyard (LB)
- 10/03112/FULMJ Garden Centre Tonbridge Road, Pembury**
- New garden centre with associated parking and access for Notcutts Ltd (DEVPLN)(MAJOR)
- 10/0314/HOUSE Dearborn Back Road, Sandhurst**
- Dormer window on rear elevation (LB) (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 23 October 2010



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Women Seeking

KAREN 51, smoker, many interests, seeks country loving guy, 35-45 who is fun, loving and caring. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382050 ☎

LYN young 50yr old lady, divorced, attractive, size 16, black hair, green eyes, no ties, dog, likes walks, meals out, nights in, socialising, seeks gent, 40-55. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350023

BEAUTIFUL slim, Oriental babe, 21, stunning figure, seeks older, solvent gent, 70 plus to spoil and pamper her. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348545

TALL attractive nurse, dark hair, blue eyes looking to meet someone young and fit for off duty fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350719 ☎

LOVELY curvy, extrovert, green eyed blonde, seeks gorgeous, easygoing, fun male to share cuddles, laughs and TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350697 ☎

ATTRACTIVE vivacious, curvy blonde beautiful brown eyes, many interests, looking for someone nice to cuddle up on the sofa and share good wine with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350695 ☎

ATTRACTIVE vivacious lady seeks good looking male to share travel, romantic nights out and lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350693 ☎

BEAUTIFUL bubbly blue eyed blonde, full of life looking for similar extrovert male to put some fun back in her life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350725 ☎

STUNNING blonde, feels life is for living looking for her Mr Right, 45-55, who can make her feel special. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350723 ☎

CURVY blonde, big blue eyes, many interests WLTm genuine male to make her laugh and brighten up her day. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350721 ☎

STUNNING slim green eyed blonde, fun to be with, likes nights out, looking for that special someone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350691 ☎

CUTE female, full of fun and always likes to try new things, seeks spontaneous, manly male for fun and laughter. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349029 ☎

ATTRACTIVE fit brunette, good fun and down to earth, WLTm funny, romantic guy who knows how to enjoy life. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349007 ☎

SINGLE mum, 39, likes most things, seeks male with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349999 ☎

BLUE eyed, slim single mum, needs help, seeks genuine caring man who wants a challenge. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382030 ☎

YOUNG bubbly, bouncy, romantic female, sexy, cool, seeks male for fun, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349435

SAM attractive, outgoing with blonde spiky hair, green eyes, lonely, romantic and in need of some male company. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349927 ☎

STUNNING brown eyed brunette, funny and vivacious searching for fun and romance with unattached male. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349923 ☎

GILL slim stylish blue eyed blonde loving and caring, WLTm down to earth guy who knows how to treat his lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349921 ☎

AFFECTIONATE curvy green eyed brunette seeking fit active man to share new adventures with. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349919 ☎

STUNNING ex model, curvy, long legs seeks tall well built guy relax with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349005 ☎

LOVELY curvy brunette, adventurous and feminine seeks intelligent male to share the fun side of life together. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349003 ☎

TINY blonde, blue eyes, lovely smile, romantic at heart, seeks really nice manly for romance, possible LTR. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348999 ☎

LORRAINE 5ft 8ins, slim, size 10, long dark curly hair, green eyes, likes meals out, pubs, seeks male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348857 ☎

SUZANNE 35, beautiful blonde, seeks male for chats and a relaxing glass of wine anytime. ACA, status unimportant. City area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342527 ☎

HAPPY go lucky blue eyed blonde, 38, just wants to make someone happy seeks similar kind male for a long term relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347347 ☎

SUE early 60's, black hair, brown eyes, seeks male, 59-63 for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346929 ☎

FEMALE 42, stunning blonde nurse looking to share a bottle of good wine, relax and whatever follows with a tall professional male. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347345 ☎

PRETTY blonde with lovely green eyes seeks male for good conversation and companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349901 ☎

SHAZ fun and bubbly with auburn hair seeks tall good looking guy for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349899 ☎

FUN loving, young at heart blonde, big blue eyes, looking for some fun, romance and TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349897 ☎

VERY pretty blue eyed blonde, funny and warm seeks attractive down to earth, older male for fun, laughter and love. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349895 ☎

FAYE N/S, non drinker, lots of love to give, seeks special, genuine, honest male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349309 ☎

MARGARET 69, 5ft 4ins, active, N/S, GSOH, likes keep fit, walks, meals out, nights in, holidays, seeks nice likeminded gent, 65-70 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349085 ☎

GORGEOUS tall feminine brunette seeks special loving, much older guy with a passion for life to get together with. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349035 ☎

CHATTY blonde, fun to be around, will try anything once, looking for some serious fun with confident guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349033 ☎

PETITE female with lovely long auburn hair, sensitive and loving seeks someone nice to share lots of cuddles, TLC and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349031 ☎

CURVY blue eyed blonde who just wants to have a good time with no complications. WLTm likeminded guy. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347127 ☎

VIVACIOUS brown eyed brunette seeks tall, confident, tactile guy looking for romantic fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347125 ☎

GORGEOUS blue eyed brunette, hurt in past and looking for someone to mend a broken heart and put some lust back. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347123 ☎

ALICE 47, black, seeks older male for love and relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381748 ☎

WARM caring woman, 59, too young to be old, likes pubs, meals out, walks, cinema, theatre, seeks kind, caring, reliable, solvent male for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344965

STRAIGHT female, 60-75 seeking male companionship, no complications for fun and socialising, gay man welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341379 ☎



CHEEKY brunette, seeks much older male to have some fun with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377306 ☎

DEBBIE 40, gorgeous cuddly red haired beauty, WLTm a beautiful romantic man to sweep her off her feet and put some fun back. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346807 ☎

CAROLE 52, long chestnut hair, attractive, 5ft 4ins, medium build, likes travel, animals, countryside, seeks Scottish male, under 57 with hair. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380448

I love rock and roll. Dance partner needed for lovely slim blonde in Hove, 5ft 7ins, 50 plus, no ties, needs nice, intelligent guy 50 plus, tall, no ties who wants to boogie and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 378984 ☎

WARM caring woman, 59, too young to be old, likes pubs, meals out, walks, cinema, theatre, seeks kind, caring, reliable, solvent male for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344965

37YR old blonde beauty, hour glass figure, likes to look good for her man, has much to offer a tall romantic male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347317 ☎

NATALIA attractive, brunette, brown eyes, 40's, N/S, slim, fit, friendly, seeks sincere, N/S, solvent male for love and relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344393

PROFESSIONAL attractive, friendly, black British female, mid 40's, size 10-12 likes socialising, seeks sincere male of any nationality for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341125

ATTRACTIVE young at heart professional, no ties seeks attractive male for mutual friendship. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355886 ☎

KAREN 34, leggy brunette who knows there's more to life than just work! WLTm confident professional male for time off meets in London and fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342525 ☎

PATRICIA outgoing, confident, feminine, warm, friendly, smart, good company, attractive, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347215 ☎



Men Seeking

HONEST reliable, handsome, black male, 47, affectionate, seeks mature, trendy, white female, 42-52 going out, laughter and life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350653 ☎

PAT 50, black, honest, kind, seeks female for discreet fun times. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350541

WHITE English male, 57, N/S, broad shouldered, likes concerts, music, cinema, seeks sensual, intelligent female, 21-45. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350457 ☎

RAY 5ft 9ins, slim, 55, caring, good heart, easygoing, seeks female of similar age for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350365 ☎

COSTA 42, 5ft 11ins, slim, athletic, educated, graduated lawyer, seeks attractive lady, any age for fun, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350243 ☎

LADY 50 plus sought by slim, attractive professional male 45 for discreet relationship. London/Surrey Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350219

MALE 59, 5ft 8ins, ex footballer, seeks attractive, slim-medium build female for good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382096 ☎

ALEX professional black male, 36, likes travel, meals out, museum, theatre, seeks kind lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350203 ☎

YOUTHFUL male, 49, 5ft 8ins, N/S, white, seeks slim African Princess, 30-45 for fun and laughter maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350185 ☎

LEO passionate, uninhibited, medium build, caring, mature, semi retired, N/S, easygoing, OHAC, GSOH, seeks similar petite lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350171 ☎

BARBARA divorced, active, 5ft 7ins, dark hair/eyes, likes cinema, theatre, meals out, holidays, seeks intelligent male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346745 ☎

VOLUPTUOUS big hearted young brunette seeks hunky guy who likes body art to make life a bit more interesting. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347165 ☎

BEAUTIFUL tall brunette with a lovely smile seeks tall, well built mature male to share wine, lots of laughter and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347163 ☎

VIVACIOUS dark haired, brown eyed, petite single mum, witty, caring, enjoys life, seeks male, 42-50 with GSOH, kind heart and who likes socialising. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348655 ☎

DOWN to earth female, 5ft 8ins, 42, seeks sincere, honest male. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348557 ☎

HONEST caring, genuine female, 44, GSOH, likes meals out, nights in, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381844 ☎



ATTRACTIVE caring male, 36, likes most things, meals out, cinema, walks, nights in, seeks nice lady, 20-40 for good times. Eastbourne Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382058

BLACK male, 25, tall, seeks female, 25-35 for serious relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382044 ☎

DO you fancy a real sexy man, Duracell type to make your dreams come true, Me 55, you 48 plus. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350583

EXCITING 55yr old pleasant male, all action, seeks similar open lady, 48-65. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350579

GENUINE young 60yr old, neglected, lonely, seeks nice lady for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350383 ☎

IAN mid 50's, medium build, brown eyes, dark hair, likes nights in/out, music, pubs, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350371 ☎

MALE seeks special female, 36-46 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350315 ☎

PROFESSIONAL male, 55, slim, 5ft 11ins, divorced, N/S, likes travel, sports, walks, seeks slim, fit, N/S, genuine female, 48-59. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350257

SINGLE male, 60, medium build, kind, caring, GSOH, likes music, walks, places of interest, WLTm lady up to 60. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350043

JAMES late 40's, likes walks, socialising, cinema, meals out, theatre, tee-total, seeks female, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350545 ☎

CRAIG 25, likes wrestling, theatre, church, socialising, seeks lady, 18-40 preferably ex model for LTR. Redhill Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382134 ☎

RICHARD 49, 6ft, slim, professional, GSOH, tactile, affectionate, likes most things, seeks slim, affectionate female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349519 ☎

TAFFY 47, young looks, nice personality, loyal, GSOH, pet lover, seeks female for text friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381962

6FT male, 24, brown hair, blue eyes, slim, athletic, outgoing, likes clubs, bars, sports, gym, seeks female for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349981 ☎

6FT 2ins male, dark hair, blue eyes, hardworking, professional, GSOH, likes sports, travel, seeks outgoing female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349939

PAUL 44, 5ft 7ins, outgoing, caring, smoker, seeks slim, outgoing, fun girl, 30-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349313 ☎

BLACK male, 30, attractive, seeks female, 18-40 slim-medium build for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349267

ACTOR 5ft 10ins, strong build, likes theatre, music, comedy, politics, seeks intelligent, attractive female, 30-45 with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349871 ☎

MATURE attractive, fit male, seeks slim, petite, sexy Asian/Oriental/Latino lady for fun LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349805 ☎

WIDOWER 66, tall, likes sports, meals out, walks, seeks attractive female of similar age for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349581

PAUL 44, easygoing, seeks attractive, easygoing female of similar age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381896 ☎

NICE male, late 50's, tall, blue eyes, grey hair, friendly, fit, likes boats, cars, outdoors, seeks female, late 50's for 1-2-1. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381886 ☎

TALL athletic 30yr old male, seeks caring female, size 16 plus for fun, leading to relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349107 ☎

AFFABLE gentle teacher, 56, likes rock, arts, culture, travel, seeks intelligent, attractive woman, no kids for LTR/marriage. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347051 ☎

JEFFERY 52, white, 6ft 2ins, medium build, likes meals out, cinema, holidays, seeks single, genuine black female for 1-2-1 relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348663 ☎

ROMANTIC good looking male, early 50's, many interests, seeks tall, black lady for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381418

DAVID successful, tall, good looking Daniel Craig look-alike, seeks fascinating fun girl, any nationality for well, lets see. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347827 ☎

KEN attractive, intelligent, young 50's, seeks nice, attractive, energetic female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347797

TALL loving Latino male, well built, slim, olive complexion, openminded, likes music, sports, culture, politics, theatre, reading, writing, seeks N/S, busty female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 340165

SUSSEX male, 45, trusting, presentable, seeks female, 40-50 faithful and believes that romance is not dead. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381884 ☎

SOLVENT male, 45, 5ft 10ins, dark hair, fit, sporty, seeks tall, curvy female, 35-45. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381870

SLIM good looking male, naturist, likes conversation, wine, sunshine, seeks female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381840 ☎

WIDOWER 68, 6ft tall, grey hair, N/S, likes sport, music, theatre, seeks attractive N/S female, 60-66 for LTR. Eastbourne. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 323687

PAUL 48, slim, 6ft, seeks caring female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348705 ☎

ROMANTIC good looking male, early 50's, many interests, seeks tall, black lady for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381418

JEFFERY 52, white, 6ft 2ins, medium build, likes meals out, cinema, holidays, seeks single, genuine black female for 1-2-1 relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348663 ☎

DAVID successful, tall, good looking Daniel Craig look-alike, seeks fascinating fun girl, any nationality for well, lets see. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347827 ☎

KEN attractive, intelligent, young 50's, seeks nice, attractive, energetic female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347797

TALL loving Latino male, well built, slim, olive complexion, openminded, likes music, sports, culture, politics, theatre, reading, writing, seeks N/S, busty female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 340165

SUSSEX male, 45, trusting, presentable, seeks female, 40-50 faithful and believes that romance is not dead. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381884 ☎

SOLVENT male, 45, 5ft 10ins, dark hair, fit, sporty, seeks tall, curvy female, 35-45. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381870

SLIM good looking male, naturist, likes conversation, wine, sunshine, seeks female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381840 ☎

WIDOWER 68, 6ft tall, grey hair, N/S, likes sport, music, theatre, seeks attractive N/S female, 60-66 for LTR. Eastbourne. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 323687

PAUL 48, slim, 6ft, seeks caring female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348705 ☎

ROMANTIC good looking male, early 50's, many interests, seeks tall, black lady for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381418

JEFFERY 52, white, 6ft 2ins, medium build, likes meals out, cinema, holidays, seeks single, genuine black female for 1-2-1 relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348663 ☎

DAVID successful, tall, good looking Daniel Craig look-alike, seeks fascinating fun girl, any nationality for well, lets see. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347827 ☎

KEN attractive, intelligent, young 50's, seeks nice, attractive, energetic female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347797



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Latest **Vauxhalls**

VAUXHALL has its sights set on moving upmarket.

It has no choice; the big volume low margin fleet sector where it once made hay is now dying and Chevrolet, its budget stablemate and favourite at General Motors, is chasing the lower end of Vauxhall's mainstream consumer market.

I've just driven several new Vauxhalls that confirm the course set for the Griffin badge brand.

Most interesting was the new diesel 4x4 Insignia Sports Tourer, joining several existing all-wheel drive petrol models and showing how the stylish Insignia now mounts a formidable and more affordable challenge to the Audi A6 Quattro line-up.

A modest 4x4 badge even apes the low-key way the German premium models announce themselves, and you could argue that the Vauxhall can match the Audi for style, but where they diverge is on image and price; if you want to swank it up then the A6 is well ahead, but Quattro versions



start at £10,000 more than their Insignia equivalents.

In the case of the Insignia Sports Tourer – the first 4x4 Vauxhall diesel ever, by the way – the price is from £26,910 and that's pretty good value for a car that is a good drive and good to be in. And practical too; the old Vectra Estate could have doubled as a hearse thanks to its extended wheelbase and upright styling, but it was as grim as a pall-bearer to look at, too.

Its Insignia replacement is a delight though and not so far behind its predecessor as a load lugger – 540 litres with rear seats up is actually better than the Vectra's 530. With seats flat, the price of style is revealed as a respectable 1,530 litres, but some way short of the Vectra's 1,850.

This 4x4 diesel version though is not just a potential tow car par excellence, but feels

refined, lively and sure-footed and a serious alternative to the A6 Avant or, indeed, other premium German models.

Vauxhall also has its eye on more discerning buyers for its excellent new generation Meriva compact MPV (above left); the original car was an impressive little people carrier, but fell into the 'does what it says on the tin' category. Its successor is more upmarket and, of course, offers the rearward-opening back doors that make access to the rear seats so easy.

Significantly though, two new diesel powertrains will also attract fresh attention; one is a performance diesel 130PS (128bhp) 1.7CDTi version (from £19,325) that can exploit the Meriva's impressive chassis – and let's remember this is one of the few sporty looking MPVs.

But the new model that really caught my



eye was the 1.3 CDTi Ecoflex Start/Stop (£15,570); not only does it barely attract road tax and average more than 60mpg, but there is little sign of the tweaks and sacrifices that usually go with such green machines.

Much the same can be said of the latest Corsa Ecoflex supermini (pictured right), which I also drove on the same day.

It is a refined little green machine and the 1.0-litre petrol version can be bought for under £10,000, but the one Vauxhall worth shouting about here is the new road tax exempt 1.3 diesel with Start/Stop (from £13,745), claimed to average around 70mpg and deliver a 13 per cent better fuel consumption in town.

It just shows how far and fast green versions of conventional cars are advancing.

You might ask: 'What took you so long?'



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2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles	£10,995	
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2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles	£9,995	
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2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles	£8,995	
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles	£8,995	
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles	£7,995	
2006 (06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles	£7,995	
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles	£7,995	
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2008 (08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles	£9,995	
2008 (08) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 75TR MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles	£8,995	
2008 (58) RENAULT MEGANE EXPRESSION VVT 111 ESTATE CAR ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles	£8,995	
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles	£8,995	
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles	£7,995	
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles	£7,995	
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles	£7,995	
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2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles	£5,995	
2008 (08) HYUNDAI MATRIX CLASSIC MPV, BLACK, 8000 miles	£5,995	
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2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles	£9,995	
2009 (09) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles	£8,995	
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles	£8,495	
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 2000 miles	£8,495	
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles	£8,495	
2007 (57) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 6000 miles	£6,995	
2008 (57) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles	£6,995	
2006 (56) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAUVE, 19000 miles	£6,495	
2005 (05) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN CDTI 16V 5DR TO HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 65000 miles	£3,995	
MAZDA		
2008 (58) MAZDA 5 5 TS2 MPV AUTO, RED, 12000 miles	£11,995	
2008 (58) MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles	£9,995	
2007 (57) MAZDA 3 3 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles	£8,995	
2006 (56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles	£7,995	
2006 (56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 miles	£7,995	
2007 (56) MAZDA 2 2 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles	£5,995	
SUZUKI		
2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles	£9,995	
2007 (07) SUZUKI IGNIS GL VVT-S 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 9000 miles	£5,995	
TOYOTA		
2007 (6) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles	£13,995	
2007 (07) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLUE, 16000 miles	£13,995	
2007 (07) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, GREY, 16000 miles	£13,995	
2007 (07) TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO 3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, RED, 25000 miles	£9,995	
2007 (07) TOYOTA AURIS 3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles	£8,995	
2007 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA 3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, IXION BLUE, 13000 miles	£8,995	
2007 (07) TOYOTA COROLLA 3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles	£8,995	
2006 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO 3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles	£8,995	
2008 (58) TOYOTA YARIS 3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles	£8,495	
2008 (08) TOYOTA YARIS 3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, VENETIAN SILVER, 14000 miles	£7,995	
2005 (05) TOYOTA YARIS 3 SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles	£6,995	
2005 (05) TOYOTA YARIS 3 SPIRIT VVT-I 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles	£6,995	
2004 (54) TOYOTA YARIS 3 SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1750 miles	£6,995	
2004 (54) TOYOTA COROLLA 3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles	£6,995	
2007 (07) TOYOTA YARIS 3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles	£6,995	
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS 3 SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 6000 miles	£6,295	
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS 3 SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles	£5,995	
NISSAN		
2009 (09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 11000 miles	£14,995	
2008 (58) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles	£14,495	
2008 (08) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles	£13,995	
2007 (07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles	£10,995	
2007 (07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FIRED IRON, 19000 miles	£10,995	
2009 (09) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 6000 miles	£13,495	
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles	£8,995	
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 miles	£8,995	
2009 (09) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles	£7,995	
2006 (06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles	£7,995	
2008 (08) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles	£7,995	
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles	£7,995	
2008 (08) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, RED, 14000 miles	£7,995	
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles	£6,995	
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 18000 miles	£5,995	
2006 (56) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles	£5,995	
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 27000 miles	£5,995	
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO,		

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AGILA									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2009	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlantis blue	9,350	8,995		
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Lemon grass	1,350	9,495		
ASTRA									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2006	55	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	55,800	5,995		
2006	06	Astra Active Estate	1.6	5	Silver lightening	18,950	6,150		
2006	06	Astra Active	1.6	5	Ultra blue	37,000	5,995		
2006	56	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Metro blue	25,000	6,995		
2007	07	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Flame red	42,700	6,495		
2007	07	Astra Design	1.8	5	Silver lightening	45,000	6,495		
2007	07	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Black sapphire	43,250	6,495		
2007	57	Astra Sxi Sports hatch CDTi	1.7D	3	Star silver	40,675	7,995		
2008	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	24,300	8,495		
2008	58	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Silver lightening	10,700	7,995		
2009	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	14,100	9,495		
2009	59	Astra Sports Twin top	1.8	2	Air blue	3,320	14,995		
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	4,960	8,995		
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	3,990	8,995		
2009	59	New Astra Sri	1.6	5	Power red	5,340	13,995		
2009	59	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Technical grey	7,050	10,995		
2009	59	Astra Active Sports hatch	1.4	3	Sovereign silver	8,040	9,995		
2009	59	Astra Life MTA	1.6	5	Sovereign silver	10,270	8,995		
2002	02*	Astra Expression	1.6	5	Red	64,725	2,495		
2002	52*	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Ultra blue	59,160	2,995		
2003	53*	Astra Club	1.6	5	Star silver	52,250	2,995		
CORSA									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2005	55	Corso Active	1.2	3	Metro blue	35,275	4,650		
2007	57	Corso Design	1.2	3	Flame red	49,370	6,495		
2008	57	Corso Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Silver lightening	15,800	7,495		
2008	08	Corso Breeze CDTi	1.3	3	Star silver	24,590	7,995		
2008	58	Corso Club Auto	1.4	5	Star silver	24,060	8,995		
2009	09	Corso Active	1.0	5	Star silver	6,270	7,995		
2009	59	Corso Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	9,950	8,495		
2009	59	Corso Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Silver lightening	800	9,495		
2009	59	Corso Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Metro blue	5,990	8,995		
2009	59	Corso Active	1.2	3	Star silver	7,180	9,395		
2010	10	Corso Energy	1.2	3	Black sapphire	2,340	9,995		
2002	02*	Corso SE	1.0	3	Flamer red	49,065	2,995		
2008	08*	Corso Breeze Plus	1.3	3	Silver lightening	60,000	6,295		
INSIGNIA									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2009	59	Insignia Elite CDTi Nav	2.0	5	Sovereign silver	6,550	19,995		
2009	59	Insignia CDTi ECO Exclusive	2.0	5	Silver lake	7,350	14,995		

MERIVA									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2006	56	Meriva Energy MTA	1.6	5	Lancelot	52,500	5,695		
2008	58	Meriva Design X pack	1.8	5	Air blue	7,600	8,995		
2003	53*	Meriva Design MTA	1.8	5	Silver lightening	50,100	3,695		
VECTRA									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2006	56	Vectra Design	1.8	5	Metro blue	33,180	6,495		
2007	57	Vectra Sri CDTi	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	58,650	7,275		
2001	51*	Vectra Sxi	1.8	4	Black sapphire	70,215	1,995		
ZAFIRA									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2007	57	Zafira Energy	1.6	5	Silver lightening	24,150	7,695		
2009	59	Zafira Active Plus	1.8	5	Ultra blue	5,670	12,995		
2003	03*	Zafira Comfort	1.8	5	Ultra blue	37,875	3,795		
DUE SOON									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2007	57	Corso Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Star silver	9,290	6,995		
2007	07	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Black sapphire	43,250	6,495		
2008	58	Astra Elite	1.6	5	Star silver	13,000	8,995		
2010	59	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Arden blue	5,660	17,995		
2008	08	Vectra Exclusive CDTi	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	16,100	8,495		
COMMERCIALS									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2007	57*	Vivaro LWB Sportive	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	51,000	£9,495+VAT		
2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	15,925	£9,995+VAT		
2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	Del	£10,995+VAT		
PRE-REGISTERED COMMERCIALS (ALL DELIVERY MILEAGE ONLY)									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2010	10	Combo van	1.2	5	Glacier white		8,995+VAT		
2010	10	Astravan Sportive CDTi	1.7D	3	Sovereign silver		10,995+VAT		
2010	10	Vivaro Sportive	2.0D	5	Star silver		14,995+VAT		
OTHER MAKES									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2005	55*	Suzuki Alto	1.0	5	Red	19,265	2,995		
2000	W*	Daewoo Matiz SE	800cc	5	Blue	48,530	1,695		
2001	51*	Daewoo Lanos SX Auto	1.6	3	Blue	41,000	1,995		
2002	52*	Rover 25i L Auto	1.6	5	Metallic Black	77,600	2,695		
2003	03*	VW Golf GTi	2.0	5	Silver	56,125	4,250		
2003	03*	Nissan Almera SXE TD	2.2	5	Silver	78,870	3,695		
2006	06*	Mitsubishi Lancer	1.6	4	Grey	52,825	4,495		
2004	04*	Toyota Corolla	1.4	3	Metallic red	68,540	3,995		
2002	02*	MG ZR	1.4	3	Red	70,250	2,750		
2004	04*	Fiat Punto Active Sport	1.2	3	Yellow	66,000	2,995		

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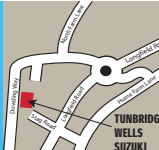
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SX4 model shown is the 1.6 SZ4 M/T available at £12,395.00 on the road (metallic paint available at £375.00). Swift model shown is the 1.2 SZ4 5 door M/T available at £12,245 on the road (metallic paint available at £375.00). Splash model shown is the 1.2 GLS* available at £10,315 on the road (metallic paint available at £375.00).

SX4 range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (L/100km): Urban from 30.7 (9.2) to 35.8 (7.9), extra urban from 47.9 (5.9) to 54.3 (5.2), combined from 39.2 (7.2) to 45.6 (6.2). Official CO₂ emissions from 143g/km to 165g/km. Swift range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (L/100km): Urban from 41.5 (6.8) to 46.3 (6.1), extra urban from 57.6 (4.9) to 64.2 (4.4), combined from 50.4 (5.6) to 56.5 (5.0). Official CO₂ emissions from 116g/km to 129g/km. Splash range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (L/100km): Urban from 36.2 (7.8) to 51.4 (5.5), extra urban from 57.6 (4.9) to 70.6 (4.0), combined from 47.9 (5.9) to 62.8 (4.5). Official CO₂ emissions from 119g/km to 142g/km.

0% APR typical finance over 3 years on selected SX4, Swift and Splash models is subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 01.10.2010 and 31.12.2010 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Credit available to persons aged 18 years or over, subject to status. Indemnities may be required. For full details contact your local Suzuki Dealers. Suzuki Finance reserves the right to withdraw or amend this offer without prior notice. The offer is available to customers within the UK (excludes Channel Islands and Isle of Man). Suzuki Finance, part of Black Horse Group, St William House, Terrilane Terrace, Cardiff CF10 5BH. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. *ESP** is a registered trademark of Daimler AG.† The Splash 1.0 GLS and 1.3 DDIS models fall into Government Excise Band C at £30 per year from year 2 onwards. All prices and specifications are correct at time of going to press.

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09 58 Ford Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Style + 3dr BLUE 37k	£8299	£7995	£304
09 58 Ford Focus 1.6 Style 5dr BLUE 27342	£8940	£7395	£1545
08 58 Ford Focus 1.8 TDCi Style 5dr Black 16753	£9940	£9000	£940
09 58 Ford Ka 1.2 Zetec 3dr MOONDUST SILVER 6464	£6700	£6195	£505
10 10 Kia Ceed 1.6 CRDi 89 1 5dr White 3954	£11995	£10000	£1995
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08 58 Seat Altea XL 2.0 TDI Stylance 5dr Grey 1887	£13200	£12200	£1000
07 57 Seat Altea XL 2.0 TDI Stylance 5dr Red 31070	£10065	£9299	£766
09 58 Seat EXEO 2.0 TDI CR SE Lux 4dr (170) Blue 6061	£17345	£15499	£1846
08 58 Seat Ibiza 1.2 5dr (AC) Black 16230	£9000	£7299	£1701
09 09 Seat Ibiza 1.4 SE 3dr LUNA GREY 15816	£9275	£8000	£1275
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08 58 Seat Leon 2.0 TSI Cupra 5dr Black 5020	£16700	£16799	£1901
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08 08 Vauxhall Astra 1.4i 16V SXi 3dr Black 13000	£8900	£8000	£900
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07 07 Vauxhall Meriva 1.6i 16V Life 5dr Easy! Blue 3656	£6700	£5799	£901
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06 58 Citroen C4 Picc 1.6 HDi 16V VTR Plus 3dr Grey Met 26k	£11490	£10499	£991
08 58 Fiat Grande Punto 1.3 5dr Auto Blue 6276	£8325	£8000	£325
09 09 Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr Silver 25289	£9165	£8895	£270
09 58 Ford Focus Estate 1.6 Zetec 5dr Auto Blue 7740	£10470	£10000	£470
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07 07 Honda Jazz 1.4 i-DSi Sport 5dr Red 39173	£8550	£8499	£51

07 57 Jaguar X-type 2.0d S 4dr Black 44541	£10355	£10000	£355
09 59 Kia Ceed 1.6 CRDi GS 5dr Red 7579	£10635	£9995	£640
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07 57 Kia Ceed 1.6 LS Crdi 5dr English Pewter m 11113	£9585	£9295	£290
07 57 Lexus IS 220d 4dr Brechin Slate 37340	£11775	£11499	£276
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04 04 Mercedes CLK 200K Avantgarde 2dr Silver 48972	£13390	£11999	£1391
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09 09 Nissan Note 1.4 Acenta 5dr Silver 11665	£8760	£8499	£261
08 58 Nissan X-Trail 2.0 dCi 173 Sport 5dr Grey 48929	£13995	£13499	£496
08 58 Saab 9-3 1.9 T1D 180 Vector Sport 4dr silver 16802	£15295	£14499	£796
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07 07 Vauxhall Zafira 1.9 CDTi Design 5dr Grey Met 44472	£9355	£9000	£355
08 08 Volkswagen Touran 2.0 TDI DPF Sport 5dr Silver 22k	£14900	£14500	£400
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*Finance is subject to status, terms & conditions apply within details on request. In-house finance may be required over 18% only. All deposits and savings to pay until end of year. Finance is provided by Peugeot Financial Services, Quindry House, Princess Way, Brehm, TDA, Weymouth, Dorset. You have until 31st January 2011 to pay and January 2011. Typical APR 16.9%. Offer can only be made on a group stock. Group stock are cheaper than Parker's franchise retail price for a nearest mileage and specification match.

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Welcome to a new Jazz age

by
STEVELOADER

HONDA has a new British-built Jazz, but resisted too much improvement on a much-loved theme.

On the other hand, while the new generation seems familiar there is much more to like, particularly sharper styling for this supermini/MPV.

And this will be key to sales this time: 60 per cent of buyers for the 2002 original were aged 56-75, but Honda now wants younger buyers and could clean up – half of Jazz customers buy another and its reliability/customer satisfaction and low depreciation records are impressive.

It could be the right car too as people look to economise and downsize without loss of space in the face of higher fuel and tax.

They may also like the new 'buy British' proposition, as the Jazz is now built at Honda's Swindon plant.

The new car looks lower and wider, with much visual work done simply by double-creasing the bonnet to reverse the pinching effect of the single line on the old car.

The interior was never poor, but looks a class above while the 'magic' rear seats have been refined and carried over; the bases can be flipped up for extra stowage on the floor and with both sides fastened back you could even load a bike crossways.

The backs also fold down in the conventional way to create a cavernous load area.

Other nips and tucks are better visibility out of the front quarterlight area, standard fit height adjustment on the driver's seat – it might be supermini-size, but you can now have a higher MPV-style driving position –



and further improvement to the ride quality.

It remains firmly sprung, but delivers impressive driving characteristics for such a small and practical car – with its sharper styling, it really does have a much stronger stance in the market than before.

Both petrol engines are refined, lively and frugal enough to cover the omission of a diesel;

Honda hints at a future hybrid option instead.

It is a tough call for best buy; the 1.2 (from £9,990) does it all, but the 1.4 ES manual (£11,490) has extra comforts and can also be spec'd with the clever all-new i-Shift automated manual transmission – far better than the old CVT (continuously variable transmission) auto 'box on the previous Jazz.



DrivingPortfolio

HONDA JAZZ 1.2 SE £11,575

Driving appeal	★★★★
Image	★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How Green?	★★★★
Road tax	£120/year
Best rival	Vauxhall Agila/Suzuki Splash

The new arrangement is superior and undercuts fuel consumption of the standard manual and even rivals the 1.2 unit, while reducing CO2 emissions to 125g/km.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data - Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Corsa SXi Range: urban 40.9 (6.9) - 45.6 (6.2), extra-urban 64.2 (4.4) - 70.6 (4.0), combined 53.3 (5.3) - 58.9 (4.8). CO2 Emissions 127 - 124 g/km.

Deal available to private individuals only for orders between 01/03/10 and 30/03/10. Deals may not apply to all dealer stock, and are subject to availability correct at time of going to press. UK applied vehicles only. Figures shown are based on a two-year maintenance contract hire package for the full term of goods over 36 months, assuming a maximum of 1,000 miles per annum. All rentals are quoted inclusive of VAT. An advance rental of £597 inc. VAT is payable, followed by 35 regular monthly rentals of £199 inc. VAT. The quotation is subject to terms being no changes in VAT or manufacturer list price. An excess mileage charge applies if the actual contract mileage is exceeded (50p per mile up to 6,000 miles, 30p per mile above 6,000 miles and above). The quotation is given subject to the vehicle being serviced and maintained in accordance with manufacturer guidelines and the vehicle must be returned to Vauxhall in a condition commensurate with the VRLA Fair Wear & Tear guidelines for its age and mileage. Charges will be applied should these conditions not be met. All quotations are subject to availability, status, acceptance and agreement and quotations may be required. Package includes Road Fund Licence and Roadside Assistance. Contract hire provided by ALDI Finance Ltd, trading as Vauxhall Leasing, Oakwood Park, Lodge Crawley, Petts Wood, Kent DA11 3LB. Contract hire is subject to status, availability and conditions. Agreed order and/or order may be required. Applicants must be 18 or over. Full terms and conditions are available upon request. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers the new car only, not the registered keeper. 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. © 2010 Vauxhall. All rights reserved. Vauxhall is a registered trademark of General Motors. Telephone calls may be recorded for marketing purposes only. E&OE.

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Official Government Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban from 16.5 (17.1) to 61.4 (4.6). Extra-urban – from 35.8 (7.9) to 88.3 (3.2). Combined – from 25.0 (11.3) to 76.3 (3.7). CO2 emissions from 265 to 98g/km.

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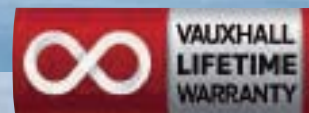
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DrivingReview

by
STEVE LOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Peugeot RCZ

IF PROOF were needed of Peugeot's new ambition and a desire to climb the world's car rankings, look no further than the stunning RCZ coupé.

It's a sports car for a new and greener era and this will be even clearer if Peugeot executes proposals for a diesel-electric hybrid – electric power to the rear wheels would create a rival to Audi's acclaimed TT Quattro.

The German star is the most obvious target for the audacious Peugeot, which also launched a more stylish version of the French marque's famous lion badge.

Except that the TT (from £26,475) is more expensive and more minimally equipped than the RCZ (from £20,450) – it actually competes more on price with the comparatively mundane VW Scirocco (from £18,860).

The upmarket RCZ GT (£25,550) model tested this week was laden with standard 'extras' such as powered and heated front seats, leather upholstery – the embossed lions

Lionising Peugeot's classy RCZ coupé



on the head rests look very classy – parking aids and stunning alloys and it turned heads wherever it was seen.

You even get folding rear seats, allowing the rear of the cabin to be crammed far more than

you would expect with that curvaceous roof.

I can't say I loved our car's 'bling-tastic' white paint with champagne gold versions of the car's trademark aluminium arches, but I was smitten all over again with the RCZ's

driving characteristics. It steers and handles as crisply as it looks, aided by a tidy six-speed manual change. Sports car purists might moan that it's not rear-wheel drive, but that would have hiked the cost.

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Chevrolet Range: Urban 42.8 (6.6)-21.5 (13.1). Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2)-39.7 (7.1). Combined 55.4 (5.1)-30.3 (9.3). CO2 Emissions 119-234 g/km. Job No. 44656

And it feels light yet well planted, particularly with the test car's smooth 163bhp 2.0-litre diesel engine.

There is no penalty to pay for the car's ability to tame a fast and winding route either; the ride quality is stunning for such a capable sports car and I could imagine driving a huge distance in the RCZ without feeling jaded at the other end.

And the cabin is not a bad place to be either. Peugeot has made big strides here lately, opening up a lead over sister brand Citroën and arch-rival Renault; the RCZ needed to deliver premium quality materials and control layout though.

Not for the first time have I admired the French practice of placing remote controls for the sound system on a pod to the right of the steering column – you always find them whatever lock you have on the wheel.

There is also decent storage space and while the RCZ can never pretend to be more than a 2+2, it's a decent one though grown-ups will struggle for headroom beneath the distinctive double-bubble rear roof, which everyone said would never be ported over from the original RCZ concept, but now shows itself to be a practical way of using air flow to keep the rear screen clear of rain and crud.

The RCZ is also environmentally-friendly for a 'press on' motor; our RCZ diesel pushes out just 139g/km of CO₂ and falls into road tax band-E (£110/year) and should average more than 50mpg – pretty impressive for a fun car.

Long-term reliability should be good too as there is much of the well-proven 308 platform beneath the stylish body and the RCZ is also made in Austria by Magna Steyr, known for quality output of low volume models.

Will there be a roadster to attack the TT on both fronts?

Peugeot said 'no' at launch, especially as it makes a 308 CC hardtop convertible, but don't rule it out – demand is out there and that's how the coupé concept ended up in production just two years after being unveiled.



DrivingPortfolio

PEUGEOT RCZ GT HDI 163 £25,550

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★
Value	★★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green?	★★★★
Road tax	£110/year
Best rival	VW Scirocco

TheVerdict



DON'T LIKE:

the test car's champagne alloy arches, but the RCZ is mostly hard to criticise



NOT SURE:

Peugeot badge really has the sporting credibility to attract would-be Audi TT buyers



REALLY LIKE:

how the leather-clad cabin's impact matches the stunning exterior

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

IT'S all about cuts this week so, apart from Government's pruning, we hear how international rail rivalries may lead to trimming fares.

The same story also reports competition to buy the county's new high-speed network, which could be sold to slice £2 billion off UK debt.

Those incensed by what they see as environmentalist 'greenwash' about eco-roof furniture can feel smug as Big Interview subject and award-winning engineer Duncan Murray suggests hacking wind turbines and solar panels out of any building budget.

And we learn that one of Kent's grandest hotels, the Hythe Imperial, lives up to its name, but local people are cutting up rough as the developers also try to re-cast the plans for nearby housing.

**STEVE LOADER** BUSINESS EDITOR

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KEY PARTNERS



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Qualified welcome for Osborne's 'tough love'

CHANCELLOR George Osborne's Comprehensive Spending Review has gathered broad support from businesses across Kent, *writes Steve Loader*.

With the Government currently borrowing one pound in every four it spends and paying nearly £120 million a day to service the UK debt mountain, they wanted drastic action. This came with dramatic pruning, notably of Government budgets, 490,000 public sector jobs, £7 billion off the welfare budget, and police funding.

But there were few tangible incentives for business and one business leader labelled the Chancellor's review as "tough love", and it was certainly not returned unconditionally. Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce chief executive Jo James said she had wanted clearer strategies and incentives for growth and exports – especially as the Government was exhorting companies to export.

And her members looked in vain for more focus on small businesses, which make up 85 per cent of the Kent's business community.

She said: "For business to create the number of jobs going to be required to help the millions of unemployed and inactive people get back into work we need to cut red tape and give businesses the confidence to move forward."

This same freedom must also be applied to the finance and banking needs of firms, she added.

But she sympathised with the Chancellor's demanding brief: "This was never going to be an easy task, balancing cuts with increased growth in the private sector."

Roger House, chairman of the Federation of Small Business in Kent and Medway, agreed, but called on the Government to create a small business programme for growth.

"Small firms are at tipping point and lack the confidence to take on the 500,000 people that will be made redundant as a result of these [pub-

**DAVID PHILPOTT**

lic sector] cuts. So it is up to the Government to incentivise the small business community – through extending the National Insurance contribution holiday to existing firms and cutting VAT to five per cent in the construction sector – to promote growth and help small firms take on new staff."

David Philpott, chairman of the Institute of Directors (IoD) in Kent, said Mr Osborne was treating business to "tough love" and added: "The only way we will get a private sector recovery under way is through doggedly applying strict controls over the economy as a whole."

The Government must now follow through and deliver root and branch reform to increase productivity levels in the public sector.

"What we are witnessing is a once in a generation chance to slim down the State. The current economic climate has forced the Government's hand, but we do welcome the settlement for education, which will help improve the long-

term supply of skills into the workforce.

"However, the proposed hike in toll charges for the Dartford crossing from £1.50 per car to £2 next year, and rising to £2.50 in 2012, is bad news, affecting 150,000 users each day."

But Kent Science Park director James Speck was pleased hi-tech businesses there escaped savage public spending cuts that had been predicted.

He said: "Britain remains a world leader in the hi-tech industries and cuts of 25-40 per cent to spending on research would have had a deeply negative effect. While it is disappointing that due to inflation the freeze on research spending represents a 10 per cent real-terms reduction in the budget over four years, we believe this is as acceptable burden for UK science."

"It remains to be seen what impact cuts to capital expenditure will have, but we hope the Government has recognised the pivotal roles science and innovation must play in the UK's future and will not allow that to be jeopardised through crippling cuts."

The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) saw little benefit for the beleaguered Kent property and construction sector though.

Spokesman Mark Goodwin said: "The Government is gambling with the economy by reducing communities and local government capital spending by 74 per cent over the next four years. This will have a significant effect on housing supply, especially social housing, already at historically low levels."

"As well as reducing the number of affordable homes, this could have a wider impact on the market where continued low supply will create affordability issues, particularly for first-time buyers."

Lord Howard agrees to set the agenda

ONE-time Conservative Party leader and former Folkestone and Hythe MP Michael Howard will open the speeches at the inaugural Business Week Live Show on November 10.

The Tory grandee, who stood down at the May General Election and now sits in the Lords as Baron Howard of Lympne, can be relied on for a lively view of the coalition's progress under his successor as party leader, David Cameron.

After training as a barrister, he was elected in 1983 and became a minister just four years later, going on to hold Cabinet posts before attempting to lead his party back into office at the 2005 election.

He was renowned as a tough debater and famously clashed on TV with Newsnight's Jeremy Paxman, as well as drawing the quote: "There is something of the night about him" from fellow Kent MP Ann Widdecombe.

And there will be surely be an extra edge to his speech at the show as it falls just three weeks to the day after the new Government's

**SPEAKER: Michael Howard**

Comprehensive Spending Review.

Business Week Live has been created by Archant KOS Media for business owners, entrepreneurs and managers across all sectors and from small to medium enter-

prises to large private and public

organisations and agencies.

It is being staged at the County Showground and Archant KOS Media commercial director Christine Davidson said: "BWL offers true value to attendees at a crucial time in their planning process, post-CSR and prior to the crunch year of 2011. Everyone and every business needs to know where the opportunities will be."

In addition to sourcing suppliers and partners, visitors will get free access to a conference programme and workshop of more than 20 speakers.

Kent Business School is providing a free clinic during the show; companies can book a 30-minute slot with a team comprising MBA students, alumni and academics.

"No hard-pressed firm can really pass up on the chance of brainstorming with such experts when

just one good tip could save their company," said Christine.

Other topics include:

- Getting Investment: with Phil Bevean, portfolio director for the Kent and Medway Innovation Team, and Liz Dolding, partner and commercial legal expert from Warners Solicitors.

- Going Digital: with expert Jonnie Jensen, who has 10 years' experience in the sector with companies such as Lycos Europe.

- Inspirational Management: Neil Annis has 20 years' experience in operational management, sales, change management, training and coaching, and personal and organisational development.

- Multi-Channel Marketing: specialist Ben Edwards on the benefits for your business and profits.

- The Big Debate: Prime Minister David Cameron's Big Society aims to empower communities. What are the implications for businesses and how can they be involved? Join a panel session with leading experts from local business and social enterprise.

Comment

AM I the only person who hurled abuse at the TV or screwed up newspapers as the previous government's fiscal failings unfolded in the run-up to this week's spending review?

Of course, the current incumbents have a vested interest in spotlighting Labour mistakes, but if a shining example of rubbish management could be found then surely it is the news – revealed in Tuesday's defence curtain raiser to the CSR – that it would be cheaper to build both the Navy's £3 billion aircraft carriers than scrap one thanks to contracts signed by the Brown government.

Why the Navy needs these huge ships is not my area of expertise, but I'm sure that the Tory pro-carrier defence hawks in the coalition will have been countered stoutly by Lib Dem doves. And the word is that David Cameron himself wanted one carrier dropped anyway and yet agreed to the nonsense of retaining the second ship on the grounds of common sense.

Of course, it means jobs will be retained to build the thing and some of Britain's shipbuilding expertise will survive a bit longer, pleasing the retired admirals who have blustered about Cunard having to have its newest superliner build abroad.

But the enormity of Labour's defence procurement errors are further underlined by the fact that the second carrier will never actually have any aircraft allocated to it – a bit like building a car with no engine – and will be quickly moth-balled and then sold.

To cap it all, the ships will have evocative names from the Navy's past as well as from a national perspective – Queen Elizabeth and Prince of Wales. How humiliating is that?

Any 'Fred in a Shed' entrepreneur from across this county could surely fancy he could manage a budget better than the previous government.

And if you are in the mood for more entertainment at Government expense (no pun intended) then how about the news that the 2011 census will create 35,000 temporary jobs. No doubt some of them will be counting themselves and former workmates in the census as the full impact of the profligate Noughties and ensuing job cuts are totalled up.

BUSINESS EDITOR STEVE LOADER

Frankfurt in five hours

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

GERMAN rail giant Deutsche Bahn says it can have a high-speed London to Frankfurt ICE service running through Kent by late 2013.

But the announcement immediately sparked lobbying to ensure the German services stop at Ashford. Having trumpeted its prime position on Kent's new high-speed rail network and Eurostar services to the Continent, Kent's boom town will not want to see the new German flier bypass its International Station.

Judith Armit, MD of development body Ashford's Future, said: "We welcome the news that other operators are expressing an interest in running high-speed rail services from London to other parts of Europe and have requested a meeting to ensure some services will stop at Ashford."

"We expect operators will want to take advantage of our location and links to the rest of the South East."

Ashford has direct Eurostar links to Paris, Brussels and Lille, plus a 37-minute HS1 service to London St Pancras, where Deutsche Bahn put one of its 200mph trains on show this week after a successful trial run through the Channel Tunnel.

Tunnel owner Eurotunnel makes nearly half of its revenue from Eurostar services, yet has the capacity to double passenger traffic either from Eurostar making more of its monopoly – which it plans to do after announcing an upgrade and expansion of its fleet – or by attracting new operators.

Deutsche Bahn's interest was welcomed by Conservative MEP for the South East Richard Ashworth. He said: "Eurostar has had a monopoly for far too long and consumers have had no choice. The decision to seek the right to operate cross-border services is extremely welcome and I hope other providers will also seek to compete."

Deutsche Bahn estimates the five-hour Frankfurt service could attract 1.1 million passengers a year, with a further million generated by a four-hour London-Cologne



Picture: GREG O'BERNE

TUNNEL VISION: Deutsche Bahn's ICE train can reach up to 200mph

offer. Amsterdam and Brussels could also feature.

Eurostar has already fired a retaliatory shot; it announced a fares bonanza this week offering cut-price £89 return tickets to Cologne or Amsterdam and repeated the argument used in all recent speculation about new Channel Tunnel high-speed services, by stressing the city centre to city centre convenience of the modern trains – avoiding airport transfers and onerous security checks – and the ability for executive travellers to work on board.

The point is not lost on potential investors in the HS1 network, which has been earmarked as a possible £2 billion asset to cash in as the Government tackles the UK debt mountain. At least three consortia are interested in HS1 and one includes Eurotunnel, which has just appointed Tunbridge Wells-based creative agency Blaze to promote the other side of its revenue stream, freight services.

Blaze will devise a trade advertising campaign targeting customers, starting soon and running until spring.

Spokesman Tom Carling said: "The central campaign message is that Eurotunnel offers substantial advantages to businesses crossing the Channel. It saves fuel, time, waiting and driver hours, which can make a big difference to a business's productivity. There's also a very strong green message, with Eurotunnel positioned as the most environmentally friendly way to cross."

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EMMA ANGEL: New Bluewater venture

Angelic upstart

ANGELS Fancy Dress has opened a new outlet at Bluewater in time for Halloween – the fancy dress industry's busiest time of year.

Emma Angel is the sixth generation of the family to work for the Oscar-winning company and the first female to take a directorial role.

Angels started in the West End in 1840, a time when actors were expected to buy their own costumes. Emma's great-great-grandfather Morris Angel dealt in secondhand clothing and tailors' samples, and introduced the option to hire costumes.

The firm later moved into film and in 1948 gained its first Academy Award for costume design for Laurence Olivier's *Hamlet* – 32 more Oscars followed, including *Star Wars* and *Titanic*. The firm became the world's largest costume house after the 2008 acquisition of the BBC costume department.

Demand for fancy dress in the UK has rocketed largely due to Halloween, now third behind Christmas and Easter for consumer expenditure at about £235 million.

The firm's London HQ attracts celebrities as well as shoppers looking for a bewitching makeover, and the Bluewater outlet offers more than 700 costumes plus accessories.

• See Julie Maddocks' interview with Emma at www.businessforkent.co.uk.

IN A move that could be straight out of the marketing blurb for ambitious Ashford, IT firm Sagittarius Marketing has relocated to the town after ending a 30-year relationship with Folkestone.

Sagittarius says it has strengthened its senior management team by promoting digital director Nick Towers to become MD and refocused its business to meet surging demand for digital and new media services – it launched a new brand last year, Sagittarius Digital, to better promote its digital services.

It wanted to be close to Ashford's 37-minute high-speed rail link into London and also harbours intentions to open an office in the capital.

CEO Paul Stephen said: "These are perhaps the most significant developments in the agency's history and signal that we are serious in our ambitions to expand to become a leading force in the sector."

"The changes made have injected a new sense of energy and direction into the business and this is reflected in our choice of new office."

IMAGE Matters, a Tunbridge Wells-based promotional merchandise company, has 'gone local' to create a festive corporate gift or freebie in the run-up to Christmas.

Using a hand-made trug or gardener's basket as the container, it has crammed in goodies including Kentish cobnuts from Potash Farm near Borough Green; rum and raisin fudge from The Fudgery in Gillingham; Apple Crisps from Perry Court Farm in Ashford; Kentish Blue from Kingcott Cheese, Staplehurst; Winterdale Cheddar from Wrotham; chutney from The Wooden Spoon in Wye; and wine from the Sedlescombe Organic Vineyard.

MAJOR Kent haulier Alan Firmin has taken delivery of a new fleet of tractor units and trailers and donated the sides of one of the trailers to promote the Cut the Crashes campaign by Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership.

Website cutthecrashes.com informs about safe driving practices for employees and drivers. Free registration enables the download of resources aimed at business road users.

Fleet operations manager Stuart Joyce said: "We have a large numbers of lorries on the roads every day and road safety is paramount. We have excellent driver training and on-going safety assessments for all our drivers and take our role very seriously. By donating advertising space we can demonstrate our responsibility and support to the partnership in helping extend the message to reduce crashes and help save lives."

The trailer will be used extensively on Kent's roads to ensure the message targets motorists in the county.

SSMALL firms in Kent with big ideas on tackling climate change have less than fortnight now to put themselves forward for the chance to win a Shell Springboard award of up to £40,000.

The aim is to highlight the role of small businesses in developing products or services which help combat climate change.

The programme has awarded £1.6 million to 43 innovative low-carbon businesses since launch in 2005 and Shell UK chairman James Smith said: "Small companies in the South East that have great products for tackling climate change can get help to grow with no-strings financial awards from Shell Springboard."

An online application form can be found at www.shellsspringboard.org and entries close at 5pm on Friday, November 5.

Imperial flagship under fire

By **JAMES ALEXANDRE**
and **STEVE LOADER**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

WORK has begun on a £12 million refurbishment of the Hythe Imperial, designed to restore one of Kent's largest hotels to former glories.

But the flagship project has not launched as smoothly as developers hoped. Local campaigners are angry at what they see as a "greedy, selfish and short-sighted" bid to vary attendant plans for 75 affordable homes within the hotel's prime location seafront grounds on the banks of the Royal Military Canal.

Ashford-based developer GSE have gone back to Shepway council with a revision to last year's permission that could see some four-bedroom houses increase in size, while some smaller and more affordable homes aimed at local buyers would lose out.

Hythe Town Council has already rejected GSE's amendment, but the final word rests with Shepway. The developer's move was not unexpected, said David Plumstead of Shepway Environment and Community Network. He wrote to town councillors to complain that the revision was "as greedy, selfish and short-



BIG PLANS: From left – Paul Trigg of GDM Architects with GSE's Darrell Healey and Declan Cogley at Hythe Imperial Hotel

sighted as it is predictable and a sign of the financial desperation we forecast last year".

He added: "The luckless queue of families hoping for the chance buy something they can afford will be just that, luckless."

GSE's development director, Declan Cogley, countered by saying: "We have been in discussion with our property agents and Shepway council's registered social landlords and as a result have fine-tuned our plans."

"The overall number of units, and the accommodation provided, remains the same, as does the primary purpose for the housing develop-

ment, namely the refurbishment of the Hythe Imperial."

The hotel's first phase should be complete by December, 2011, and will involve the replacement of the roof, as well as painting and new windows on the south and east sides.

It will also get a new restaurant, kitchen and facilities, a feature atrium lift and new internal fire escape, plus a reorganised and refurbished fourth floor. New conferencing facilities should also improve the hotel's attraction to business users.

GSE chairman Darrell Healey said: "This is the start of an exciting new chapter in the history of the hotel and will ensure Hythe has a hotel of which it can be rightly proud."

Phase two starts in January, 2012, and involves more vital maintenance as well as a new hotel entrance, bar, business centre and reception area, while the exterior will gain more parking, formal gardens, and a children's play area.

A year on, the final phase brings a new golf clubhouse and refurbishment and expansion of changing rooms. A new health and beauty studio will be created and the gym, spa and swimming pool will be refurbished.

The hotel employs 120 people and is managed by Mercure Hotels. Last year, it welcomed 38,500 visitors – 10 per cent from abroad – and hosted 432 functions.

HOUSEBUILDER Bellway, which has eight sites across Kent, has posted a £44.4 million return to profit in its latest results.

But the upturn for the year to July, 2010, after slipping £29.8m into the red the year before, could not prevent its shares falling slightly at the news due to overall gloom pervading the housing sector.

Chairman Howard Dawe was pleased the firm has reversed its financial fortunes and had a forward order book of £397m, and £59m cash in hand to respond to whatever the mar-

Bellway back in the black

ket delivered in the months ahead.

"Sales in the early part of what is traditionally an active autumn period have picked up, albeit only slightly, following the usual summer lull and it seems potential homebuyers are awaiting the

outcome of the Comprehensive Spending Review [this week]," he said.

Kent and the South East has been one of the regions where sales had been more buoyant, he added, helped by the Government's HomeBuy Direct, which helps first-time buyers get on the housing ladder.

Part exchanges had also helped speed and maintain a flow of deals, Mr Dawe said.

Bellway has developments at Ashford, Maidstone, West Malling, Swanley, Rochester and Canterbury.

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Holiday Extras Top 250 take-off



MARKET-leading Kent-based travel firm Holiday Extras has entered the Sunday Times HSBC Top Track 250 companies.

The expanding Hythe operation, with latest annual sales of nearly £146 million and profits of £2.6m, was ranked 236th and rubs shoulders with firms as diverse as Harrods, Poundland, Pret a Manger and Center Parcs in a prestigious league table which highlights top performers and profit earners in the commercial sector below the top 100 giants of UK businesses.

Holiday Extras – better known by its online persona as holidayextras.com – is the UK No1 for pre-booked airport hotels and airport parking, taking bookings for more than 6.8 million travellers each year. It has also diversified into airport lounges, airports by rail, London theatre breaks, theme park breaks and holiday insurance.

This has been backed by close attention to customer satisfaction, a point underlined by figures showing 99.88 per cent of customers are satisfied with Holiday Extras' products and service.

The company has also landed a string of awards, including a Sunday Times best 100 companies to work for 2010 listing.

The Top Track accolade was celebrated at a dinner in London for 190 people including Holiday Extras' chairman Steve Lawrence (pictured second left), CEO Matthew Pack (left) and his parents Carol and Gerry Pack, who founded the company. Matthew Pack said: "We're very pleased to be included in the list and proud of our performance last year. Our success is thanks to the team at holidayextras.com and to our customers who have spread the word and recommended our services."

The future? Been there for years...

KOSmedia BUSINESS WEEK

THE BIG INTERVIEW

Directline Structures would appear to be at the cutting edge of a green building revolution. Last month, the Ashford firm added a prestigious Kent Environment Award for sustainable design and construction to its list of accolades, but while MD Duncan Murray is thrilled by the recognition, he points out that there is nothing revolutionary about what his firm does. That's how we've always done it, he will tell you in his softly-spoken Edinburgh accent. What's more, he's not impressed by 'Johnny-come-lately' bandwagon-jumpers seeking to cash in on a building method which, he argues, doesn't need to be as expensive as some would have us believe. Business editor Steve Loader went onsite to hear more.



DUNCAN MURRAY

THERE was no eureka moment for Duncan Murray when it came to creating environmentally friendly buildings.

"Sustainable design is simply good design. It saves money for the client as well as helping the environment, and we've always done it this way," he says in typically unflappable style, adding without any sign of boasting: "Everyone else is just catching up."

And far from being something customers thought they had to pay extra for, he believes sustainable buildings can also be built cost-effectively, stylishly and without what he sees as eco-gimmicks like wind

turbines and solar panels – he has little time for what he believes are fads and 'greenwash'. "It used to be suggested that we must be cutting corners. But the way we build is all the rage now – it's called efficiency and lean design."

Looking back on his career, he counts himself lucky to have been allowed to roam across various disciplines to gain experience in both design and construction and build a reputation as a trouble-shooter for awkward or tightly-budgeted projects.

He praised his first employer, engineering and construction giant Tarmac, in particular: "They steered me towards things that I was good at."

In his time he has been involved in everything from roads to reservoirs, waterworks

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DUNCAN MURRAY'S CV

- 1973 – joined nationwide construction and engineering group Tarmac after leaving university in his home city of Edinburgh.
- 1978 – joined Midlands civil engineers Jeavons.
- 1981 – moved to Kent to join East Peckham construction firm Arnold and Nathan.
- 1988 – co-founded Directline Structures at Laddingford and then Goudhurst, moving the company to Ashford in 2009.

to sea defences and schools to sports halls, in the UK and abroad.

But it was a desire to explore the new vogue for steel-frame buildings and see them through from initial inquiry to final execution to his exacting standards that prompted him to co-found Directline Structures in 1988.

By this time, he and wife Jenny – then a creative perfumer – were living in Kent – and he had been working for an East Peckham firm, Arnold and Nathan.

With a like-minded colleague, David Midcalf – now retired – he set up the new firm in tiny offices at Laddingford, later moving to Goudhurst. He was finally able to fulfil a dream to practise what he preached by designing and building a new company office, Orbital House on Ashford's bustling Orbital Park, and moved in early last year.

"People loved coming to our old office, but while the location was beautiful, transport links here are so much better – five minutes from junction 10 and from the train," he says.

And it is also, of course, a fantastic advertisement for the company's sustainable philosophy and even includes a company bike so that staff can, in theory, cycle into the nearby town centre or station: "It's only been used twice to my knowledge, but if we don't have it then nobody is even going to try it," argues Mr Murray.

But while the elegant yet functional glass and steel bike shed is an obvious sign of the building's green credentials, there is very little else to interrupt the clean lines – and certainly no wind turbines.

"A windmill on the roof would be just to tell the world we are green," he says. "I don't think we have ever had a client ask us for a feature like that unless it was to show the world, but what we do do is make it possible for it to be added later if it were to become viable."

Hidden behind the façade of Orbital

House though are features that do tick boxes for Mr Murray and contributed no more than 10 per cent to the £1.2 million cost of the offices. There is a rainwater-harvesting roof – the water goes to flushing toilets and watering the garden – and clever use of natural light and air to reduce power and ventilation use.

The building also uses air-source heating, a seemingly magical process that uses residual outside heat to boost temperatures inside the building.

Gravel parking outside allows water to collect in a lagoon and soak away rather than overload the main drainage system and flood – "An all too common problem with new developments in other parts of Ashford," Mr Murray observes.

In addition, building Orbital House generated minimal waste – just four skiploads when the industry benchmark is 10 times this. It was achieved by buying strictly what was needed, using nearby companies as first-choice suppliers and re-using anything becoming surplus to the build and adding up to an estimated 20 per cent saving in raw materials.

Now home to Directline's 15 full and part-time employees, the building also became the firm's winning entry for the Kent Environment Awards.

Asked what projects he wanted to result from such recognition, he said he would love

more school projects like the one the firm is now handling in St Leonards in East Sussex. In his spare-time, Mr Murray is chairman of Rolvenden Parish Council and enjoys playing folk fiddle – "that's my yoga" – and lively debates with daughters Emily and twins Katy and Helen.

• **For more on Mr Murray's views about wind turbines, solar panels and other eco-features, see our story on page 5.**



WINNERS: Directline Structures' Jon Morton and Duncan Murray, right, with their Kent Environment Award

DUNCAN'S TOP TIPS

- Never stop learning: "Research new technologies and don't be too proud to learn from others."
- Think your way out of a problem – don't just throw money at it.
- Don't panic – there is always another way and a solution.
- Think of the client's costs as if they were your own.
- Question and try to understand everything, especially new fashions and regulations.
- The client is the expert in his business. Work together to optimise the project.
- And one for clients: "Don't prejudge what can be done with a site or a structure and dismiss an opportunity. Ask for exactly what you would like and it may be perfectly possible."



LEARNING CURVE: A stylish new building for South Kent College

"Thanks to NatWest, life at the aquarium is continuing to thrive"

Ian Cunningham, Managing Director, Blue Reef Aquariums



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DESIGN FOR LIFE: The company's award-winning HQ at Ashford's Orbital Business Park



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Asset finance makes sense



ALEX BALDOCK: Asset finance for growth

MANY businesses are facing challenges from every angle, writes Alex Baldock, MD of business and finance leasing expert Lombard.

They've felt obliged to put some capital expenditure plans on hold during the downturn, but are now struggling to stay competitive with critical equipment getting well beyond its normal replacement cycle.

With rusting kit and scarce cash, many are now turning to asset finance. Capital expenditure is the lifeblood of recovery, with asset finance well positioned to fund this upturn.

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That's why many businesses are seeing the benefits of asset finance as an essential complement to bank facilities, and a better choice than cash when it comes to funding capital expenditure.

Next year Lombard celebrates 150 years of serving British business. As market leaders, we specialise in many asset types, including vehicles, plant and machinery, technology, aviation and marine.

Our aim is to lend more than we did last year – and even more in 2011. Our message to businesses, large or small, is: We're open and hungry for business so come and talk.

Equality landscape shifting this month

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

EMPLOYERS must brace themselves for radical changes in the jobs landscape after major introductions this month under the Equality Act.

Employment law experts at the Dartford and London-based practice Vizards Wyeth say the UK has seen nothing like it for decades and it brings new terminology, concepts and tests, widening the scope of disability discrimination and introducing new requirements.

Simon Warley, Vizards Wyeth's head of employment law, identified health as a major change and one example was the unacceptability of pre-employment health questionnaires under the act.

Employers should now avoid health-related questions until after deciding whether a candidate is suitable for appointment, and even leave this until the end of the selection process.

In fact, questions on application forms should only concentrate on information that is relevant to an individual's ability to do the job, rather than for example, their date of birth or their health. The act does not prevent employ-

ers carrying out medical screening after a job offer has been made. Where a particular issue has been identified, the employer must make reasonable adjustments if this is possible.

However, should it not be possible to make reasonable adjustments to the role or the workplace to enable the person to undertake the position, the employer may be entitled to withdraw the offer.

If the employer chooses to withdraw the offer due to the candidate's disability though, it is essential they document the thinking behind the decision and that it is reasonable, in order to avoid risking a disability discrimination claim.

Failure to do so is likely to incur severe potential penalties, and include litigation and the prospect of an investigation by the Equalities and Human Rights Commission.

Vizards Wyeth's overall advice is that employers should review existing job application forms, policies and documentation, and importantly the recruitment processes as a whole, following the arrival of the new Act.

Cross-border accountancy



INTERNATIONAL common ground in accountancy prompted a seminar staged by McCabe Ford Williams in the historic Canterbury Cathedral Lodge.

The delegates were members of the Association of Accountants and Auditors in Europe (AAAE), a network of European accountants of which McCabe Ford Williams (MFW) is a founder member. The AAAE hold such gatherings twice annually, with members taking it in turns to host.

Representatives this time included colleagues from Belgium, Cyprus, France, Ireland and Holland.

MFW partner and current AAAE president Nick Hayward (pictured left, speaking at the event) said: "The aim of the association is to provide a support service for each other's clients advising on cross-border tax, accounting and other business regulatory issues."

"A typical example is our Irish member dealing with the VAT registration for a UK client providing building services in Dublin. We also deal with ongoing work introduced by other members, for example preparing the accounts of UK subsidiaries of French companies and dealing with rental income for an Irish business with UK properties."

MFW has offices across Kent at Ashford, Cranbrook, Dover, Herne Bay, Maidstone and Sittingbourne.

How to avoid email rebate scammers

TAX experts at Maidstone-based DSH chartered accountants and business advisers have issued tips against falling prey to emails trying to trick people into revealing bank details.

The scammers have stepped up their efforts after news that more than four million taxpayers may be in line for a rebate, averaging £410 per head.

Tax manager at DSH, Steve Carpenter, said: "The use of poor English and unusual email addresses are usually enough to give fraudsters away. But scammers are getting increasingly sophisticated so bogus emails and websites are increasingly difficult to tell apart from the real thing. One tell-tale sign is that the email will pretend to be from HMRC [HM Revenue and Customs] and try to extract the recipient's bank or tax details."

But he added: "HMRC staff, of course, already know key tax details such as your National Insurance and tax reference numbers and will never request this information – or any other personal details – by email."

DSH tips in these instances is:

- Do not reply to the email and do tell your accountant.
- Never enter your log-in details directly from email links; visit the HMRC website instead and log-in to its online services. This will protect your log-in and password.
- Check where the link goes. This is simply done. If you hover your mouse pointer over the link for a few seconds a box will appear showing you where the link goes. It should always start with <https://ecw.hmrc.gov.uk> and must not contain the symbol @ anywhere within the link.
- If you are not already logged into the service you will be directed to the following address to log in – <https://online.hmrc.gov.uk/login>. If taken to any other address do not log in. Contact instead HMRC's online services helpdesk.
- If you suspect you have received a so-called 'phishing' email do not attempt to log in to Shared Workspace using the link. Instead, forward any suspicious emails to HMRC at phishing@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk.
- Steve Carpenter also reported bogus HMRC calls requesting bank details to pay a rebate. His tips here are:
 - Ask that the request be made in writing.
 - Ask the caller to tell you your address, NI number and tax reference.
 - Tell the person to direct all inquiries to your accountant.
 - Ask for their phone number and say you'll ring them back. Check that it is a genuine call from a legitimate HMRC number by calling your local tax office.

NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight will focus on training, IT and comms

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Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 50 years

1960 50 YEARS AGO: ASHFORD Town booked themselves an FA Cup first-round tie with Gillingham at Essella Park with a 2-1 win over Margate in a replay at Hartsdown Park.

Ashford rejected the idea of switching the tie to Priestfield, saying they were confident they could accommodate the additional demand to watch the game.

Dover's joy at qualifying for the first round proper for the first time in their 70-year history after a 2-1 win over Littlehampton at Crabble, was tempered by logistical worries.

The Whites were drawn at home to Peterborough, but with up to 5,000 away fans expected, more than 2,200 temporary seats had to be installed.

1985 25 YEARS AGO: KENT chairman John Pocock dismissed talk of a crisis at the club as "nonsense" following an exodus of players, but offered a less-than-ringing endorsement to bowler Graham Dilley, whose future remained clouded.

"He had an indifferent year for him and was upset that he was left out of the side on occasion," said Pocock. "We were upset that he only got 27 championship wickets and hope that he will be able to get it together next season."

Wicketkeeper Stuart Waterson joined Northamptonshire on a one-year deal after being overlooked as Alan Knott's successor in favour of Steve Marsh.

Tony Burns quit as manager of Gravesend & Northfleet after a 2-1 home defeat by Fareham. The ex-Tonbridge manager was replaced by Eddie Pritchard, formerly of West Ham.

2000 10 YEARS AGO: LESS than six months after steering Gillingham to the second tier of English football for the first time in the club's history, Peter Taylor, now with Leicester, was named caretaker manager of England following Kevin Keegan's resignation.



Under Taylor's replacement - Andy Hessenthaler (pictured) - Gillingham's five-game unbeaten run was ended in heart-breaking fashion at St Andrews, where they suffered a 1-0 loss to Birmingham City in injury-time.

A superb rearguard action counted for nothing when Marcelo headed in a 92nd minute corner from Stan Lazaridis.

Worth the risk

Sprinter Montell Douglas ignored warning over injury to sprint to 4x100m relay gold

By TOM HOWARD

ALTHOUGH advised against the trip to the Commonwealth Games due to injury, golden girl Montell Douglas is more than happy she made the journey to India.

The Blackheath & Bromley sprinter helped the England 4x100m relay team to gold in Delhi, despite feeling the effects of a serious knee injury just a week ahead of the Games.

The 24-year-old ran the second leg in the relay which saw England annihilate the field to win gold, and described the triumph as one her greatest achievements.

But Commonwealth gold would have seemed a world away when a knee injury, which required surgery, set her back last winter.

Douglas only returned to full training in the summer, but struggled all season and admits she was advised to surrender her England Commonwealth Games place to aid her recovery. However, she persevered through the pain and winning a gold medal proved it was the right call.

She said: "The Commonwealth Games was one of the things keeping me going throughout the season while I was injured and to win gold

is the best feeling ever. It means the world to me. Coping with the injuries I've had has been difficult. I always had an inner confidence knowing that I could achieve when I am at full fitness and that also kept me going.

"I hadn't completed many runs at full fitness at all this season and when I turned up to the holding camp in Doha I was still feeling pain.

"People had advised me not to go, but by the time I got to India I was feeling better."

While injury has hampered her season, the British record holder has also had to fight back against the critics after being part of a Great Britain quartet, labeled a "disgrace" by UK Athletics performance director Charles Van Commenee.

Douglas, who grew up in Chatham, was part of the squad which famously failed to qualify for the European Championship final in Barcelona in August. She used the criticism to her advantage which has paid off with her performance in India.

She said: "Obviously we had what happened in Barcelona hanging over us, but even the world's best make mistakes. I have been focusing on the fact that it's not about how you fall, but the way you come back."

GOLDEN GIRL: Montell Douglas with her 4x100m relay gold in Delhi

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

DETERMINATION: Montell Douglas fought back from injury and baton drop heartache in Barcelona to clinch gold in Delhi Picture: ADY KERRY

Golfer's tour card hopes

NEWLY-turned golf professional Matt Haines will discover if he has secured a place on the 2011 European Tour next week.

The 20-year-old, who only turned pro in May after a highly successful amateur career, has impressed on the European Challenge Tour and is in contention to step up to the main tour.

The Rochester & Cobham Park member entered this week's Egyptian Open after finishing third at the Roma Golf Open. The result pushed him into 17th place

in the rankings, with the top-15 earning a full 2011 European Tour card.

Haines, who is yet to win a tournament as a professional, says he will need a result in Egypt and at the Grand Final in Italy next week to ensure his place on the tour.

Speaking before this week's Egyptian Open, he said: "It's important. This week and next week will determine where my career will head in 2011. It's very simple and I know what I have to do. My destiny is in my own hands."

Harrington tees up in Kent after latest win



TWO-time Open champion and Ryder Cup winner Padraig Harrington made a brief visit to the London Golf Club, near Ash on Monday.

The 39-year-old Irishman flew into the venue from Malaysia, just hours after winning the Asian Tour's Johor Open.

Harrington demonstrated his skills to Wilson golf equipment retailers from around the world and a handful of amateur golfers at the Kent club.

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Hildenborough's Dame Kelly Holmes looks back at the Commonwealth Games and says athletes who refused to make the trip to India missed out on a special event

'Delhi games were one of the best there has been'

AFTER a bit of a slow start, the Commonwealth Games in Delhi really came to life and in the end I think India, as a nation, managed to pull it off.

As president of Commonwealth Games England, in the lead up to going to the championships there was a degree of apprehension before we were scheduled to go, what with issues surrounding security and the state of accommodation for athletes, and it wasn't until 10 days before the opening ceremony that we made a firm decision about going.

There was no doubt that we were going to go, that was never really an issue, but we were only going to make the trip once we could guarantee our athletes' safety, which was of course of paramount importance.

I was out there with our team and in the end I think all nations were willing India to turn it around. We all know that if a major sports event goes to an affluent country, then more often than not they will be able to deal with any problems in the lead up and ensure everything is ready on time.

But, if we only give major championships to affluent countries, then we are never going to inspire other nations and give them the chance of a lifetime. Sport has the ability to bring about change, but if we say we are never going to give an event like this to a developing country like India again because of the issues that have happened, then in my opinion that kills what sport truly stands for.

What we have learned from this is that any country that gets to host a major Games that has never staged one before needs more support. They need help from federation's and organising bodies that have experience of staging major sports

championships to give them a steer on how they should be run.

There's no doubt that India took on something they really wanted to do, but perhaps didn't realise the enormity of the task ahead. They lost their way a bit and weren't helped by a monsoon in the lead up, and with all the negative press beforehand it just seemed to get worse for them, but to give them their dues they really pulled it off.

When we first arrived in India, the first day was manic and it was really quite disorganised. That was principally down to the fact the organisers had focused so much of their attention on security and making sure everything was finished on time, so they didn't have the time to go through the process of how a major games operates.

Once we got through that first week, you could see the dramatic change each day. It just got better and better and by the end of our time there, I can honestly say it was one of the best Games there has been.

It also proved to be a successful championships for Team England as we came away with 37 gold medals and ended up with 32 more medals overall than we did in Melbourne in 2006. Our preparations ahead of going to Delhi were far from ideal when some of our athletes began dropping out because they were misinformed. I absolutely believe that some of those that did pull out will really regret doing so.

Some made their minds up not to go because it didn't fit in their season and that's fair enough, but there were others that dropped out prematurely because of things that were said before the Games. They were ill-informed and perhaps shouldn't have made those decisions. When you get a chance to represent your country and compete for a medal, you shouldn't pass that up as there



KELLY'S HEROES: Dame Kelly Holmes with some of the Team England athletes who competed at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi, India

could be times in your career when you get injured and that could impact on your hopes of competing at major Games.

While they decided against going, it provided an opportunity for others to step up to the plate and compete, what for many of them, was their first major championships. It's a major stepping stone and is a great platform for the Olympics. Competing at a major multi-event sport like the Commonwealth Games is a pretty overwhelming experience, but those athletes would have learned more than they would have ever done from watching them on TV or speaking to other athletes. It's a great preparation for an Olympic experience and you should never underestimate how important that is. It also helps them believe that you

can compete on the big stage and there were so many athletes that proved they could do that by stepping up a level. For the likes of Leon Baptiste, who won gold in the 200-metres, Zoe Smith, who picked up bronze in weightlifting, and Emma Jackson, one of my 'On Camp with Kelly' girls who came fourth in the 800, at her first senior champs, the experience really proved to them they can compete with the best in the world.

It was truly a whirlwind experience and one I won't forget. Now I am back there are a few exciting things I am working on, including a couple of TV shows, but I shall reveal all in my next column – so watch this space.

• **Dame Kelly Holmes, Kent's double Olympic gold medal winner, is one of KOS Media's regular sports columnists.**

'On Camp with Kelly' is Dame Kelly's mentoring and education programme for middle distance runners, supported by Aviva. Go to www.doublegold.co.uk to read more about Kelly's Commonwealth Games trip.

World Touring Cars steer clear of Brands County swimmers' success

THE WORLD Touring Car Championship (WTCC) will not be coming back to Kent next year.

Brands Hatch has featured on the popular championship's calendar ever since 2006, but the event will now take place at Leicestershire's Donington Park after organisers agreed a two-year deal.

Brands Hatch was due to host the WTCC on July 17 next year after being announced on the provisional calendar, but that has been changed due to logistical reasons.

The saloon car series has attracted reasonable crowds during the last four years, while this year's meeting saw three-time world champion Andy Priaulx become the most successful driver in the series' history by taking his 16th career win.



MOVING ON: Brands Hatch will not host World Touring Cars next year

Series promoter Marcello Lotti said: "We are happy with this agreement and we are sure that by working in close collaboration we will be able to make the event one of the highlights of the WTCC season.

"Donington Park is an historical venue for international motorsport and after its recent renovation it offers the level of facilities that our

championship needs. Besides this, we have good memories of our previous visits with the European Touring Car Championship."

It's unclear at this stage if the Formula Two Championship, a series run by Brands Hatch owners MotorSport Vision, will also move to Donington Park as part of the WTCC support package.

A SERIES of fine individual performances saw Kent preserve their place in the top tier of county swimming at last weekend's national team championships in Sheffield.

Having travelled north aiming to maintain their place in Division One, Kent finished 10th in the 20-team competition featuring the best young swimmers in Britain.

Katie Latham was the stand-out performer as she swam to first-place in the 12/13-years 100-metre freestyle, as well as finishing fifth in the 100m backstroke.

Sevenoaks swimmer Xander Alari-Williams, captaining the boys team, lived up to his billing as he came home third in the 16/17-years 100m breaststroke.

Kent swimming manager Jean Scott was full of praise for the travelling party and insisted the future of swimming in the county was looking healthy as a result.

"It was brilliant, I've never seen a team swim so well," she said. "We weren't languishing down the table, we started off that way, but managed to turn it around."

The title of Division One champions went to favourites Lancashire, who racked up 494 points, with Yorkshire second and Middlesex third.

Kent were among a tightly-bunched group of counties in mid-table, with their total of 324 points only five short of Cheshire and a further five from eighth-placed Hertfordshire.



CRITICISM: Referee Ian John-Lewis

Referee in fight row over injured title challenger

STROOD referee Ian John-Lewis has come under fire over his handling of last Saturday's WBC heavyweight title fight, which left American challenger Shannon Briggs in a German hospital, writes Mick Watkins.

John-Lewis, 47, who works as a detention officer, is an experienced official and ex-fighter who was taking charge of his first world heavyweight title fight.

However, he has been criticised in the aftermath of the 12-round beating reigning champion Vitali Klitschko, 39, of the Ukraine, dished out to Briggs, 38, from Brooklyn, New York.

Briggs was punished over the 12-round fight and afterwards was taken to hospital from the O2 World Arena, in Hamburg, suffering from fractured cheekbones, concussion and a torn left bicep.

Afterward, John-Lewis was reported to say: "These guys are tough and as long as a man fights back, you have to give him a chance."

When contacted by KOS Media on Monday the referee was unable to speak on the record about the fight under the instructions of British Boxing Board of Control secretary, Robert Smith.

To blame John-Lewis alone for not stopping the fight would be unfair as the WBC officials, ringside doctor and challenger's corner all failed to step in to save the challenger from unnecessary punishment.

As John-Lewis, ironically, could not defend himself in this report, maybe it would be pertinent to say it was boxing that failed Shannon Briggs on Saturday.

Dallas ready for bigger challenges

UNBEATEN heavyweight Tom Dallas took his record to 12 wins (10 KOs), when he stopped Preston's gutsy Paul Morris at the Troxy in London last Saturday.

Dallas, from Chatham, weighed 35lb heavier than Morris, who usually campaigns at cruiserweight, and the smaller man's speed gave the Kent roofer a few awkward moments early on.

Dallas landed solid jabs but found himself on the end of the odd sharp counter from Morris as he tried to close the distance.

But it was the bigger man's firepower that was doing the real damage and Morris gradually slowed as Dallas made his weight and strength tell.

The Kent man kept up the pressure and towards the end of the third he landed a big right hand that staggered Morris, with the referee making a timely intervention at 2:55 of the round.

The fast-improving Dallas, 25, looks ready for a better level of opposition.

He said: "I found it a bit frustrating as he went back all the time. I stuck to the jab and knew I had six rounds to catch up with him and that's what I did."

"I'm ready to move up now. I spar with [ex-Olympic bronze medallist] David Price and don't mind who they put me in with."



KO: Tom Dallas

Picture: NICKY HAYES



Picture: ADY KERRY

Denly in vow to fight back after season of discontent

Kent ace desperate to up game after disappointing run of form

TECHNICAL ISSUES: Joe Denly is off to Australia to work on his game after a season where his form fell below the standards he set himself

By GLENN PEARSON

KENT opening batsman Joe Denly says he will make no excuses for a season in which he failed to live up to his previous high standards.

Speaking honestly and frankly about what was by his own admission a disappointing summer in a Kent shirt, the 24-year-old said there were technical issues with his game that he needs to work on, which he plans to do in a stint with Sydney Cricket Club in Australia this winter.

The popular Kent right-hander scored just 610 runs at an average of 21.03 in Division One of the LV= County Championship this year, way below the 1,000-run target he set himself at the start of the summer.

Dropped

For a player who prides himself on his performance, it was a tough season to digest, particularly as he set out with the plan of regaining his place in the England one-day side after having been dropped at the beginning of the year.

"Overall I was disappointed with the whole summer, especially with my four-day stuff," he conceded. "Setting out at the beginning to pass 1,000 runs is always a big aim of mine."

"Losing my place in the England side was obviously very disappointing and I felt I needed to go into the first-class season with a point to prove, and I failed to do that to be honest."

"By getting dropped it made me even more desperate to prove all those people wrong and to get back in that side and I think that might have taken my focus off what I needed to do to get back there. All my focus was

on playing for England and not the task ahead, which was the season with Kent."

Denly even found himself doubting whether he could get out of a poor run of form with the bat and says the county schedule, which was no doubt difficult to deal with, didn't help his situation.

"You certainly can start questioning yourself when you are in a lean run of form, doubts start creeping into your mind – not so much 'am I good enough' – but rather how am I going to get out of this slump in form?" he said.

"When it's happening game after game you do start having those doubts, but the key is trying to remain positive and try and look forward to the next chance you get. The one thing I got out of the season was that I wasn't look-

ing forward to my next time at the crease or my next game, I was just thinking 'I need a break' but that was probably the wrong attitude to have."

"I'm not making excuses, there are a couple of technical issues that I need to sort out and I will be working hard on doing that."

The Canterbury-born batter departs for Australia in December and plans to spend four months in Sydney working on his game in a bid to return to Kent ready to help the side back to Division One.

"Over the last few years I haven't had much time off and I wanted to plan my own winter and do my own thing," he said. "I've been on Academies, trained at Loughborough and been on tour, and it's been a bit repetitive."

New deal for Coles

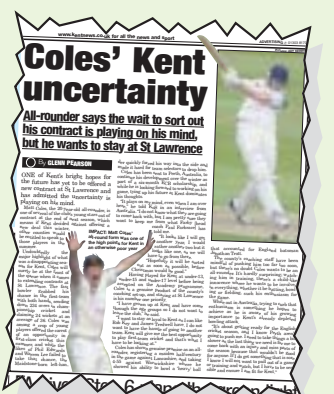
KENT head coach Paul Farbrace says all-rounder Matt Coles will be offered a new deal to stay at the club.

The 20-year-old said the uncertainty about his contract was "playing on his mind" in an interview with KoS last week, and Farbrace has moved to assure Coles and the club's members that the young all-rounder is very much part of his plans.

"We are very keen to keep Matthew at the club," he said. "We did have a discussion with him before he went to Australia and I went on holiday, and we have impressed on him to stay and we see his long-term future here."

"We are proud of the fact he is a local boy and we very much understand his anxiety about his situation and that he wants to have his contract sorted out."

"We will certainly be getting something in writing off to him shortly – there is no doubt that we want him to stay."



Coles' Kent uncertainty

All-rounder says the wait to sort out his contract is playing on his mind, but he wants to stay at St Lawrence

By GLENN PEARSON

ONE of Kent's bright hopes for the future has yet to be offered a new contract by the club. Matt Coles, 20, has been playing for Kent since he was 16 and has been a key player in the county's success in the past few years. He has scored over 1,000 runs and taken over 100 wickets for the county. However, his contract has not been renewed and he is facing uncertainty about his future with the club. Coles has expressed his desire to stay at Kent and has been working hard to improve his game. He has been a consistent performer in the county's first-class and List A cricket. He has also been a useful bowler, taking wickets in the middle order. Coles has been a popular player with the fans and has been a key player in the county's success in the past few years. He has been a consistent performer in the county's first-class and List A cricket. He has also been a useful bowler, taking wickets in the middle order. Coles has been a popular player with the fans and has been a key player in the county's success in the past few years.

UNCERTAINTY: We reported on Matt Coles' concerns last week

Shakey mulling over team options



FREE AGENT: Shane Byrne is looking for a new team

Picture: ALTHEA DUCATI

A MOVE to top world superbike team Ten Kate Honda could be on the cards for free agent Shane 'Shakey' Byrne.

The two-time British champion, who was dropped by Althea Racing after a disappointing 2010 World Superbike Championship (WSB) campaign, has been mulling over his options for next year, but has held talks with the Honda-powered team.

He said: "Ten Kate Honda is a possibility, but I will probably be just one of a number of riders on a list they will be looking at. Obviously it would be great to stay in the WSB with a competitive team and I believe they have a good relationship with Honda."

Despite facing an uncertain future, the Sheppey rider is feeling positive about his options and is confident he will be on the grid next season, whether it be in the BSB or WSB.

Shakey, who finished 10th overall in the world championship this season, has also held talks with a number of top BSB teams at Oulton Park two weeks ago, and hasn't ruled out a return to the series.

He said: "I'm feeling good about next year as there are possible opportunities in the WSB. However, if that doesn't come off then there is a good chance I can return to the British series with a good team and fight for some more titles."

Fleet fans' vote blow for Daish

EBBSFLEET United stumbled into this weekend under a cloud of confusion after MyFootballClub members voted to take control of transfers away from manager Liam Daish.

The controversial proposal was voted on by only 132 members, but the far-reaching consequences of the proposal would prevent the manager from signing players at short notice, with 48 hours required for each ratification vote.

As Kent on Sunday went to press, however, Ebbsfleet secretary Peter Danzey was in talks with the vote's initiator, Paul Charnock, to get the ruling withdrawn in time for Saturday's FA Cup tie with Boreham Wood.

Danzey had earlier described his position as untenable after strongly opposing the move by MyFC, which Daish also advised against before members voted on Wednesday night.

"It's no way to run a football club," Danzey said. "This week, we should have been doing nothing but prepare for the FA Cup and Liam

should have been concentrating on getting the players ready, not worrying about things that are out of his control.

"[Paul Charnock] attempted, in good faith, to get more members, but it's rebounded and had the opposite effect. The person I keep mentioning is [goalkeeper] Preston Edwards because we haven't got any real cover in that position.

"If Preston phones up and says he's got the flu, where does that leave us?

"My predicament is that I don't depend on Ebbsfleet for a living so I could ignore MyFC and sign a player, but that affects people who do depend on the club for a living, like Liam, so I'm in a horrible position."

Ebbsfleet supporters were quick to voice their opposition to the scheme on the club's fans forum, with the proposal also ruling that members could vote against players leaving the club, even if Daish deemed them surplus to requirements.



HANDS TIED: Liam Daish would not be able to buy a keeper to cover Preston Edwards (right) even in an emergency



Picture: IOR KURCO

Gills boss has his suspicions over who spread rumour linking teen striker Payne to big club

GILLINGHAM manager Andy Hessenthaler believes speculation linking teenage midfielder Jack Payne with a move to Reading may have come from the player's agent, **writes Glenn Pearson.**

The Gills boss was made aware of a national newspaper's story speculating about Payne interesting the Championship side, but Hessenthaler insists his midfield maestro is going nowhere.

"There was an article about Jack Payne going to Reading and I think that is disruptive for the player," he said. "Whether that's the agent putting that in there about Reading I don't know, but we don't want that as a club.

"If his agent has put that out, that can turn the player's head a little bit and we don't want that, we want him focusing on playing here.

"We don't want that distraction, I feel we are beginning to find our feet as a squad now and we don't want that."

Payne, 18, has been one of the bright lights in an up and down start to the season for the Gills under Hessenthaler.

Playing in front of the back four, usually a position for one of the more experienced players, shows his maturity as a player and the manager believes he will go on to bigger and better things – but not yet.

"I want him to do his apprenticeship here, that's what he has got to do," Hessenthaler said.

"I believe he will play at a much higher level given time,



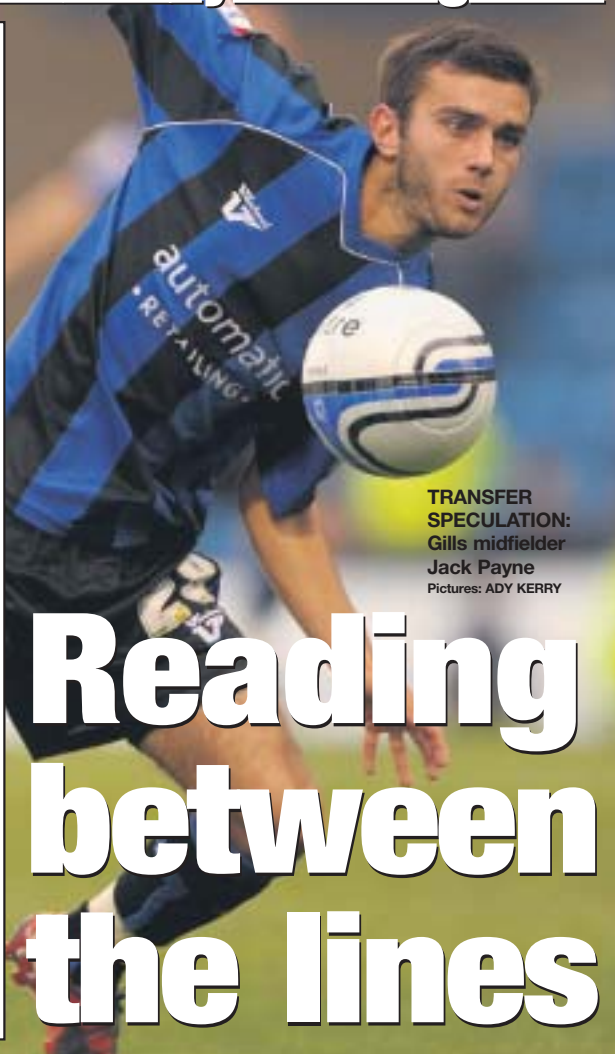
STAYING: Andy Hessenthaler says teenager Jack Payne is going nowhere

but we want him to do well for Gillingham first and help us back to where we want to be."

Team-mate John Nutter was playing in the Gills side when Payne made his debut for the club at Morecambe aged 16, and the left-back believes the teenager has a bright future.

"He has tremendous talent with great potential," he said. "I remember his debut at Morecambe when the first thing he did was put in a challenge on a 6ft 2ins big fella and we got a 1-0 win that day.

"He punches well above his weight physically and in terms of his talent. He has a big future as long as he keeps his head screwed on, which I'm sure he will because he is a level-headed lad."



TRANSFER SPECULATION: Gills midfielder Jack Payne
Pictures: ADY KERRY

Reading between the lines

Striker close to Whites return

DOVER Athletic striker Jason Norville is getting closer to fighting for a place in the Whites side, although he remains desperately short of game-time.

The former Barnet and Woking player spent part of pre-season on trial with Gillingham before moving to the Crabble last month, although an ankle knock has severely hampered his opportunities.

Dover boss Martin Hayes insists

Norville has a vital role to play in Conference South, but feels more could have been done to speed up the forward's recovery during his short stay at Priestfield.

Hayes said: "He's done well but the one thing he doesn't have is match practice.

"He wasn't training a lot with Gillingham and he's got a niggly ankle injury which didn't get properly looked at. He's close to

being given the opportunity to get in, but he's had to wait because Adam [Birchall] and Elliott [Charles] are doing well together and scoring goals.

"I'm happy with [the squad] I've got right now. Sam Long gave me extra width in attack and Jason's the fourth striker I wanted. We're scoring plenty of goals, but we need to get back to clean sheets."

Stones' home move clinched new manager

NEW Maidstone United manager Andy Ford says the club's bid to move back to the county town next year was the key factor in him accepting the role.

The Ryman Premier League club appointed Ford on Tuesday evening, just 24 hours after sacking manager Peter Nott who had been in charge for just eight months. Former Stones fans' favourite Steve Butler has returned to United as Ford's assistant.

Ford joins the club, who sit bottom of the league, with a wealth of experience after successful spells at Gravesend & Northfleet and Welling United. The 56-year-old is looking forward to keeping the club in the division, but it is the plan of the new owners, Oliver Ash and Terry Casey, to bring the club home in 2011, that excites him the most about the job.



FRESH START: (l-r) Maidstone assistant Steve Butler with new manager Andy Ford

Ford said: "The main part that attracted me to it was the potential. In two years' time if everything goes right, we could be back in the town. We know the support and the income streams will be better if it happens and we can then progress.

"If the challenge of bringing the club hadn't been there I don't think I would have been interested, I'm not being fussy but that really did appeal to me and Steve."

He led the club for the first time on Tuesday and helped guide the side to a 2-2 draw against Hendon.

Stones chief executive Bill Williams admitted he opened his search for a new manager last Wednesday after Maidstone's 2-1 defeat against Leatherhead. He says the club needed a change of approach, but described the decision to sack Nott, who had been involved with the club for nine years, as difficult.

He said: "There had to be changes at this football club and it needed a new dynamic approach to what we are trying to do.

"It wasn't easy. Peter has been loyal to the club and a lovely man. He is a Maidstone man through and through which made it even more difficult."



Picture: SIMON HARRIS

INJURED: Jason Norville

INSIDE SPORT THIS WEEK

**Kent batsman
Joe Denly on
where he
went wrong
last season**



**Dame Kelly
Holmes writes
about the
Commonwealth
Games**

**Montell Douglas
on what winning
Delhi gold has
done for her
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KENT COACH OPTIMISTIC OVER SQUAD

Pictures: ADY KERRY



**Farby says 'landscape has changed' at county
and he might even be able to sign new players**

By **GLENN PEARSON**

THE FUTURE for Kent next season might not look as gloomy as first feared after it emerged the club could be in a position to make an addition to the playing squad.

Concerns about fielding a 15-man team with finances dictating that there would be no room in the budget for any new faces, or an overseas star, might not be the case now as the green shoots of recovery begin to show at St Lawrence.

Much of this renewed sense of optimism looks to have come from the start of the £8.2 million redevelopment project, and while it would be foolish to think at this early stage it would help bring in a host of new players, there already appears to be some tangible benefits.

Head coach Paul Farbrace, speaking on his return from a holiday in the United States, explained that the "landscape has changed" at Kent and that bringing in a player or two next season might not be out of the question.

"Maybe the position of the club, in terms of numbers of the squad, might not be as we thought at the end of the season," he said. "Perhaps 14 or 15 on the staff is not going to be the case. We are perhaps not in as bad a position as everyone first thought."

"We are certainly not going to have lots of money thrown at us, but seeing the ground redevelopment under way has helped and that's great credit to the chairman and the



chief executive who have really got stuck in, and I'm sure there will be a knock-on effect as a result of that hard work."

It's quite a dramatic turnaround from the end of the season, just over a month ago, in which Kent were relegated in the championship and the futures of several key players at St Lawrence were in question.

The change in fortune has even got Farbrace talking about potentially being able to bring a new face into the club, although he was quick to point out that had not yet been confirmed.

"Hopefully, we can try and attract a bowler into the set up as that's something we have needed and we certainly felt that last year," he said. "If we can add a bowler, whether that be an overseas or a domestic, that would certainly strengthen our squad and I

HOPEFUL: Paul Farbrace says Kent may be able to add to their squad, and says he has kept in contact with Makhaya Ntini (left) ever since he left the club

feel we would be in a good position. No-one is saying we can definitely have this or that, but the situation is certainly more favourable than it was.

"The landscape has changed and I am certainly feeling more positive about things than I perhaps was, and seeing things happen at the ground is good when it comes to speaking to players about committing their futures to Kent."

Having impressed both on and off the field in his short spell at Kent at the start of the summer, it's no secret that South African fast bowler Makhaya Ntini would be welcomed back with open arms by all connected to the club. Farbrace has begun talking to a couple of players about next season and did say that Ntini was one he has been in regular contact with since he left.

He said: "[Ntini] was outstanding for us during his time at Kent, but all I would say on that is conversations have been ongoing with him ever since he left. Whether he is the man to come back next year will depend on a lot of things like the Indian Premier League, his ambassadorial position and where he is at, so we'll just have to see."

Talks with several players out of contract at the end of next season are also under way, while there was further good news this week that fast bowler Robbie Joseph is expected to be fit enough to bowl within the next 10 days after successful surgery on his injured shoulder.

Racer's lucky escape in Brands smash

A FORMULA Ford racer was lucky to escape without injury after an horrific crash at Kent's Brands Hatch last weekend, writes Chris Murphy.

South African racer Robert Wolk was launched into a series of high-speed somersaults after contact during the Formula Ford Festival semi-final at the West Kingsdown circuit last Sunday.

The car was pitched into a spin on the entry to Paddock Hill bend, one of the fastest corners on the 1.2-mile track, and several cartwheels followed before the single-seater car slammed into the catch fencing. Wolk eventually ground to halt upside down in the gravel trap. Luckily the South African

Formula Ford Midas champion emerged from the wreckage unaided, while his car was barely unrecognisable.

A spokesman for the track said: "He walked away which was amazing and shows how strong these cars are these days."

The accident was captured on video and has already attracted more than 80,000 hits on video-sharing website, YouTube.

Denmark's Dennis Lind clinched the 39th Formula Ford Festival title, finishing ahead of Australia's Scott Pye and Cypriot Tio Ellinas. Britain's Josh Hill, son of former Formula One world champion Damon Hill, finished seventh.



TAKE-OFF: Robert Wolk, amazingly, was unhurt in horrific crash